



Glass

Book

THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER

VOL. XXXV, 1932



PUBLISHED BY THE
MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASS.

6

100%
100%

MEDFORD
J. C. MILLER, JR., PRINTER

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
THE NEW JAMES A. HERVEY SCHOOL	<i>Frontispiece</i>
WASHINGTON'S LETTER TO COLONEL BROOKS	1
WEST MEDFORD'S SCHOOLHOUSE EVOLUTION. <i>Moses Whitcher Mann</i>	2
THE NEW JAMES A. HERVEY SCHOOL. <i>T. M. Connell</i>	5
COUNTRY SCHOOL EXPENSES A CENTURY AGO. <i>Edwin B. Rollins</i>	6
ANDOVER SOCIETY'S WELCOME TO BAY STATE HISTORICAL LEAGUE. <i>Emma M. Gray</i>	10
BAY STATE LEAGUE'S ANNUAL MEETING. <i>Elizabeth V. McGraw</i>	12
FOLLOWING THE CANAL TO WOBURN	14
MEDFORD WOMAN FOUNDER OF CINCINNATI'S FIRST HIGH SCHOOL	16
FIRSTS AND LASTS IN MEDFORD HISTORY	17
MEETINGS OF 1931	19
OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1932-1933	20

No. 2.

ONE OF THE FIRST VISITING NURSES	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE LATER PHYSICIANS OF MEDFORD. <i>Edward W. Barrett, M.D.</i>	21
DR. GEORGE WESTGATE MILLS. <i>T. M. C.</i>	22
DR. CHARLES VOSE BEMIS. <i>Mary H. Hayes</i>	23
DR. CHARLES MONTRAVILLE GREEN. <i>Robert M. Green</i>	25
DR. JAMES COLBY DORR. <i>J. C. S.</i>	29
DR. JAMES HEDENBERG. <i>J. C. S.</i>	30
DR. PEARL MARTIN. <i>T. M. C.</i>	30
DR. JAMES E. CLEAVES. <i>E. W. B.</i>	31
DR. J. WALTER BEAN. <i>E. W. B.</i>	32
DR. WALTER LANGDON HALL. <i>E. W. B.</i>	32
DR. NORMAN FITCH CHANDLER. <i>E. W. B.</i>	33
DR. PATRICK FRANCIS GAHAN. <i>E. W. B.</i>	33
THE LAWRENCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	34
MEDICAL WORK IN THE SCHOOLS	35
THE MEDFORD VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION. <i>Annie H. McPherson</i>	37
MEDFORD'S DOCTORS	40
IN THE STATE'S OLDEST HOUSE. <i>Wilson Fiske</i>	43

No. 3.

	PAGE
THIRTY YEARS' GROWTH OF MEDFORD SCHOOLS. <i>Katharine H. Stone</i>	45
ROYALL HOUSE TWICE IN THE PUBLIC EYE. <i>Emma M. Gray</i>	55
WASHINGTON AND THE ROYALL HOUSE	56
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF WILSON FISKE	58
WILSON FISKE. <i>Paul S. Fiske</i>	58
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF ANDREW FRANCIS CURTIN	60

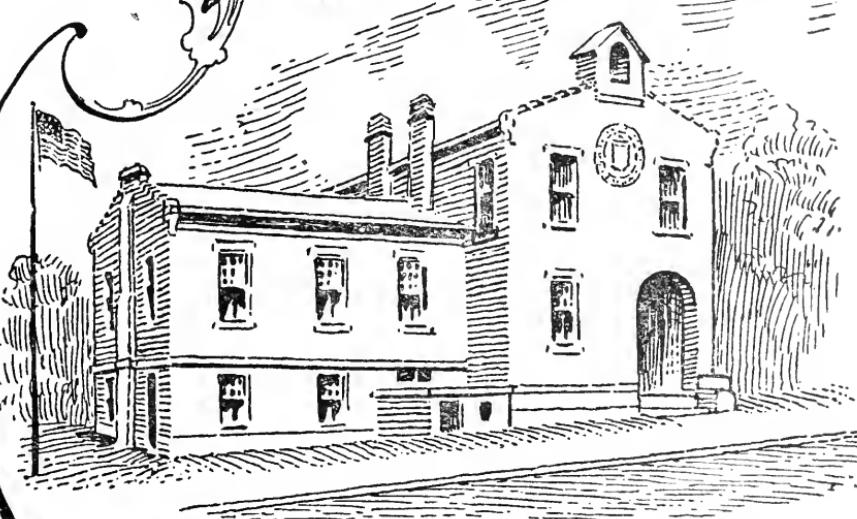
No. 4.

HISTORY OF MEDFORD'S POLICE. <i>Daniel W. Connors</i>	61
MEDFORD'S ZONING ORDINANCE. <i>Joseph C. Smith</i>	67
IN WASHINGTON'S HONOR	71
PAGEANT OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO	72
NOTES BY THE WAY. <i>Thomas M. Connell</i>	73
SOCIETY CALENDAR FOR 1932	76

Vol. XXXV.]

[No. I.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



March, 1932

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

C O N T E N T S .

	PAGE
THE NEW JAMES A. HERVEY SCHOOL	<i>Frontispiece</i>
WASHINGTON'S LETTER TO COLONEL BROOKS	1
WEST MEDFORD'S SCHOOLHOUSE EVOLUTION. <i>Moses Whitcher Mann</i>	<i>Moses</i>
THE NEW JAMES A. HERVEY SCHOOL. <i>T. M. Connell</i>	5
COUNTRY SCHOOL EXPENSES A CENTURY AGO. <i>Edwin B. Rollins</i>	6
ANDOVER SOCIETY'S WELCOME TO BAY STATE HISTORICAL LEAGUE. <i>Emma M. Gray</i>	10
BAY STATE LEAGUE'S ANNUAL MEETING. <i>Elizabeth V. McGay</i>	12
FOLLOWING THE CANAL TO WOBURN	14
MEDFORD WOMAN FOUNDER OF CINCINNATI'S FIRST HIGH SCHOOL	16
FIRSTS AND LASTS IN MEDFORD HISTORY	17
MEETINGS OF 1931	19
OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1932-1933	20

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

M E D F O R D H I S T O R I C A L R E G I S T E R .

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

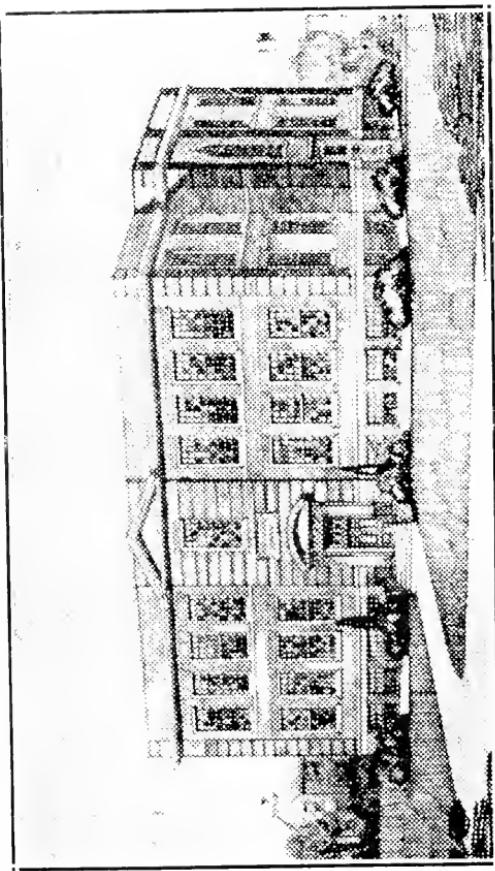
Harry E. Walker, Chairman.	James D. P. Wingate.
J. C. Miller, Jr.	Mrs. Hollis E. Gray.
Wilson Fiske.	Charles H. Phinney.
Joseph C. Smith, Editor.	Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager.
Moses W. Mann, Editor Emeritus.	

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____



ARCHITECT'S DRAWING OF THE NEW JAMES A. HERVEY SCHOOL,
WEST MEDFORD.

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXV.

MARCH, 1932.

NO. 1.

WASHINGTON'S LETTER TO COLONEL BROOKS.

ONE of the treasures of the Medford Library is a letter from Washington to Colonel Brooks, dated March 24, 1778, appointing him one of the four sub-inspectors to serve under Baron Steuben.

The letter is still perfectly legible—a tribute to the paper and ink of those days—and is suitably framed and mounted for inspection. It was an object of much interest at the Washington evening of the Society. The text of the letter is as follows:—

Head Quarters 24th March 1778.

Sir,

With a view of establishing uniformity of discipline and manœuvres in the army, it is in agitation to form an inspectorship distributed among different officers—The Baron Steuben a gentleman of high military rank, profound knowledge and great experience in his profession is placed at the head of this department—as assistants to him, four subinspectors are to be appointed, who will each be charged with the superintendence of a considerable portion of the army. Officers to each brigade under the title of Brigade Inspectors, are already in the execution of their office, preparing the way for ulterior instructions, by perfecting their men in the first and most simple elements.

As the office of subinspector cannot be filled with propriety but by men whose character and abilities will give them influence and ensure their success—I would make choice of Gentlemen who unite those advantages—and in my own mind have fixed on you as one—the evident utility of this institution, will I am persuaded engage you to undertake the office and contribute your labours to obtain the important ends proposed— There will be an additional Share of Duty incident to the office—which will probably be considered in determining the emoluments, but will more especially be compensated by the honor and respectability attached to it.

If you choose to accept of the appointment, you will be pleased to acquaint me immediately with your intentions—that I may have you relieved the time for action advances with hasty strides—we should therefore improve every minute,—and the sooner you enter on the function of subinspector the more likely will you be to reap the satisfaction of doing essential Service to the army.

I am Sir

*P.S. This appointment
does not take you out of
the line, altho' it exempts you from the duties of it, while you are in the
exercise of your office.*

Your most obedt Servt.

G. Washington

Lt. Colonel Brooks.

WEST MEDFORD'S SCHOOLHOUSE EVOLUTION.

[Written in 1901 and taken from a newspaper of that year.]

It is a well-known fact that the first meeting-houses and the first churches of old Medford were located in the section of our fair city known as West Medford, and on the old road to Menotomy, later made historic by the "midnight ride of Paul Revere." As the town grew in importance and wealth by its manufactures of Medford crackers, Medford rum and the ship-building industry, the third meeting-house was erected on the site of the present Unitarian church, and a new schoolhouse built nearby.

It seems that fifty years elapsed before some effort was made to provide other accommodation than one central school building would afford, and two schools were organized, one for the west and the other for the east portion of the town, whose masters were to receive each two pounds per month for three months' services. However this may have been, the years passed away and with them "old colony times," and Medford was "under the king" no longer; in fact, the third president of the United States had commenced his second administration, and as yet no schoolhouse had been built for the "west end."

May 5, 1805, the town "voted to choose a committee to look out for a piece of land at the West End, to procure materials and report at the March meeting." Whether the committee found so much land to select from (it must be remembered that the west end then extended beyond Symmes corner in Winchester) or whether they overlooked their duty during the time allotted to them, we know not.

Twenty-four years later the town warrant contains this article: "To see if the town will limit school districts and build a house at the west part of the town." This article was acted upon in "March meeting" and the town "voted to build a schoolhouse at the west part of the town. . ." Possibly the committee thought it was now

or never; at all events, after one hundred and twenty-four years the "West End had a schoolhouse."*

The second schoolhouse was located on the southern slope of Mystic hill, now known as Hastings heights or park, and was at the corner of Brooks and Irving streets. It has been thought by some that this building and the school it housed were named for Medford's historian, who made the dedicatory address. The reports of the school committee, however, inform us that the name was bestowed in recognition of the gifts of several of the Brooks family. The reports also mentioned that beside the amount appropriated by the town such substantial aid furnished by the citizens resulted in the provision of a hall for lectures and entertainments. As the West Medford Lyceum and Library Association was formed at about this time, it is probable that its lectures were given here, though later at Mystic Hall. It is interesting to note that though still legally existent, the remaining books of its library have found a place upon the shelves of the present school.

John B. Hatch and J. M. Usher were the building committee, and George A. Caldwell the builder of the new house. The land was purchased of Samuel Teele for \$417.00, and the house cost \$2,060.27. In its location it was a prominent object from the cars on the Lowell railroad as they slowed up for the stop at West Medford. From the car window the writer often saw it on his way to Boston, and as it was surmounted by an open, round, arched belfry and corner turrets, naturally mistook it for a village church. When no longer used as a school it was sold to Edward Kakas, and by J. H. Norton remodelled into a dwelling.

In 1867 the town, with an eye to the future, purchased the site on High street bordered on either side by Allston and Auburn streets and erected a new building to accommodate four schools of varying grades. At this time the craze for mansard roofs was on, and the new Brooks schoolhouse was surmounted by a roof of this kind, mak-

* A full account of this first west end schoolhouse, written by Mr. Mann, may be found in the *REGISTER*, Vol. VIII, No. 3, together with an illustration of the same.

ing room in its interior for an assembly hall on the third floor. This and one room on the second floor were left unfinished. J. H. Norton was the builder and its cost a little over \$17,000.00. The land, with its enclosing walls of stone, made the total cost over \$22,000.00. In 1872 the interior was finished and this hall was in frequent use for lectures, concerts and dances, as well as various functions, social and political.

With the year 1878 the new schoolhouse had become crowded and our veteran teacher, Miss Ellen Lane, and her school that had been gathered "across the track," were temporarily accommodated with quarters in the Congregational Church vestry. The Hall schoolhouse was built by Deacon James Pierce at a total cost of \$6,000.00. This provided for two more schools, but in four years more the erection of the Gleason became a necessity. This was done by the construction of a peculiarly planned building which enclosed abundant space skyward and was constructed with a view of raising the roof to cover another story and house two more schools. Steam heat and ventilating apparatus were introduced, and when completed it reflected much credit to the builders, Messers Ham & Hopkins. Its total cost was \$10,500.00.

The growing section of the town soon called loudly for more provision for young people, and again the builder's services were called in requisition, this time Lewis Lovering, who built the Hervey school in 1889. This was located on the same street and but a few rods from the Hall, the architect following the same design as that of the Gleason.

But nine years elapsed and it became evident that something must be done to meet the growing demand for more room. The half-story idea of the last constructed buildings, while presenting a good external appearance, was found undesirable to enlarge upon, and the town had in the meantime taken on the grace and dignity (if such it be) of a city.

For thirty years the Brooks schoolhouse had served its purpose with but little alteration and improvement. The public hall on the third floor was undesirable to retain, and a new school in its place equally so. Accordingly the old school was moved aside to be used while a new one was built. The latter still speaks for itself.

—MOSES WHITCHER MANN.

THE NEW JAMES A. HERVEY SCHOOL.

The new James A. Hervey School is being erected on the site of the old Hervey School at the corner of Sharon and Holton streets, West Medford. There are eight regular classrooms, so arranged that another unit of four rooms may be added. The building is located at the southerly corner of the lot, which provides for playground area at the rear and westerly side.

The architectural design of the building is an adaptation of the Georgian period. The exterior walls are faced with dark red, water-struck brick, in general laid in grey mortar, with the brick courses of the basement story, the quoins at the corners and the arches laid in red mortar. The entrances, the cornice and other trimmings of the building are in stone. The front entrance is featured with fluted stone pilasters with an ornamental pediment and the name "James A. Hervey School" is cut in a stone panel above.

The building is eighty-nine feet long and sixty-two feet wide, two stories high above a well-lighted basement, or ground floor. The first and second floors each have four regular classrooms, seating forty pupils each, provided with pupils' wardrobe, teacher's closet and bookcase.

On the ground floor are located separate playrooms for boys and girls, toilets, boiler room, coal pocket, electric room and storage room. The boys' playroom is large enough to be used for assembly or community purposes. The principal's office and a teachers' room are located on

the first floor opposite the first entrance, and an emergency medical room on the second floor. Toilet facilities and supply closets are provided on each floor.

The building is of semi-fireproof construction. The boiler room, coal pocket, and all stairs, stair halls and corridors are of fireproof construction throughout. The mechanical equipment is up-to-date and includes an electric clock system with a master clock and program regulator, a fire-alarm system and an inter-communicating telephone system. The heating is a vapor system, and the ventilating system includes unit ventilators in each classroom.

The general contract for the construction of the building includes also the rough and finished grading of the entire lot, granolithic walks and driveway, grass areas and shrubbery at the front and sides, a finished playground enclosed with a chain-link fence and gates, and a flagpole at the front corner of the site.

—T. M. CONNELL.

COUNTRY SCHOOL EXPENSES A CENTURY AGO.

Old records often reveal interesting glimpses of the life of former days. Such a record of the proceedings of "school meetings" in a country town in central New Hampshire, an account covering a period of nearly fifty years following the opening of the record in March, 1821, forms the basis of this article, which is published in the REGISTER, not as local history, but as a picture of conditions common in our vicinity, if not in the town of Medford itself.

Before the adoption of centralized control of the town schools it was the custom in the smaller towns to form school districts, and all matters pertaining to their local schools were the responsibility of the voters residing in the corresponding districts. They met in the schoolhouse at least twice a year to decide upon the sum of money to be raised for school purposes, settle the amount

of "schooling" for the year, and elect a committee to represent them in the interval between meetings. Doubtless the term "district school" had its origin in this district control.

Each district made such provision for a school as the means of its citizens afforded, and when the sum to be raised had been voted, its disposition was in order. Entries such as, "Voted that one-third of the money be spent for the summer school, and that the school begin on the first Monday after May 15, and that the school be taught by a woman" appear frequently in the record. It may be inferred that the term was a short one, probably about five weeks, and attended by the younger "scholars" who were not needed to help on the farm at the time. Further evidence of a short term is the small sum paid the teacher, \$31.45 in one instance, and even less at other times.

The yearly expenditure for the district was often less than one hundred dollars, and rarely more. Part of this was for fuel, supplies, and repairs, and for the teacher's board. At best, no large amount was left for the winter school, which was usually taught by a man. In 1821 the master received \$11.00 a month and the vote specified "that the master should not be allowed anything for keeping school in the afternoon on Saturdays."

It is hardly likely that the winter term, which began about December first, lasted more than ten weeks. Although the length is seldom mentioned, it is recorded in one place as seven weeks, three and one-half days, by which time, presumably, the appropriation was exhausted.

It was the custom to "vendue" the board of the teacher, and the successful bidder was apparently satisfied to secure a boarder at prices varying from seventy-five cents to \$1.00 per week. As the record proceeds a gradual rise is noted; also that it was considered worth more to board a man than a woman, and that board for the winter term was somewhat more expensive than that for the summer. Frequently the teacher was allowed to add the board money to his other compensation and make such provision for accommodations as suited his convenience.

Wood was the fuel for heating the schoolhouse, at first in fireplaces and later in a stove, which effected a considerable economy. Boys over twelve years of age were required to take turns at building the fires. When the change from fireplaces to a stove was made it was "Voted to sell the west chimney at auction, reserving one hundred good brick." The sale of the chimney netted \$6.05, and the andirons, which originally cost \$1.28, brought \$1.75 after fourteen years of use. Following the sale it was "Voted that the committee receive the brick and fire-dogs money and make necessary repairs on the schoolhouse with the same."

Repairs were not extensive and appear to have consisted chiefly of replacing broken glass. Six squares of glass set in place, and a new lock, cost \$1.08 in one instance. The idea of parental responsibility, evidenced by the following, "Voted that if any scholar should brake out any glass they should replace it or their parence should be responsible for the same and put it in with putty," might well have been continued to the present time.

The usual provision when the two fireplaces were in use was seven cords of hard wood and one of pine, cut four feet in length, well seasoned, and delivered at the schoolhouse previous to the opening of the winter school. Surveyors were appointed to measure the wood before it was paid for, and in one case a penalty of fifty cents per cord was specified if the conditions of the contract were not lived up to. In this instance, in the year 1836, the price of the hard wood was \$2.00 per cord, but in 1821, \$1.00 per cord was considered a fair price for hard wood and seventy-two cents for pine, which was used only for kindling the fires. By 1825 the price had risen to \$1.25 per cord, and thereafter a gradual rise is apparent until \$5.50 was paid in 1862 as the result of war-time conditions.

Banking the schoolhouse with brush to exclude the cold blasts which otherwise would have swept under

the floor through the loose stone foundation was another service put up at auction at the school meeting and eagerly bid for by some of the boys, who welcomed the opportunity to add even a few cents to their small stock of ready money. The 1860 price, which included removing the dried brush in the spring, was twenty-four cents, but an entry some years earlier shows that six cents was paid for the same work.

The problem of the family that lived just over the line in an adjoining district and remote from its own schoolhouse was present then as now, and one such paid tuition to the extent of \$1.10 for the privilege of sending its children to the nearer school. Later there seems to be evidence of an attempt to change the boundary of the district for the benefit of this family.

The old schoolhouse went under the hammer for \$30.00 in 1841 and \$200.00 was voted to build a new one twenty feet wide and twenty-eight feet long. But, as has happened more than once since, the appropriation was exceeded before the building was ready and the final cost was \$250.00, not including the blackboard, which appears as a separate item of \$1.00.

The record closes with the minutes of the meeting of February 18, 1861. Throughout it gives evidence of intimate knowledge on the part of the people of this phase of public business such as is unknown and apparently impossible at the present time. However, the public concern seems to have been more with the cost of the school than with its curriculum. There is no mention of text-books which, in accordance with the custom of the times, were provided by the pupils. It is probable that, except for the standard three Rs, the instruction was governed largely by what the master was prepared to teach and the text-books available.

The 1841 schoolhouse is still standing, and, after some alterations, has become the summer home of a descendant of one whose name appears frequently in the record, first as one of the boys who won the job of banking the school-

house, and later as clerk of the district. A wealth of memories cluster around the old building. What stories would enrich the history of the town if it could speak!

—EDWIN B. ROLLINS.

ANDOVER SOCIETY'S WELCOME TO BAY STATE HISTORICAL LEAGUE.

The October 3d meeting of the Bay State Historical League was held in the Historical Society's building in Andover. The day was warm and beautiful, and two automobile loads from the Medford Historical Society thoroughly enjoyed the ride. The trees were just beginning to give promise of the riotous color to follow soon.

Seats were placed in what once was the stable, but which is now used to house spinning wheels, ladder-back chairs, steel engravings, foot-warmers, hand-drawn fire engine, etc.,—all the overflow treasures of yesterday that the house could not hold. Through the open rear door an apple tree laden with ripe fruit caressed us with its beauty and fragrance.

President Haskell opened the meeting, introducing President Holt of the Andover Society, who welcomed us. The Medford delegation must have felt very proud of the speaker of the afternoon, because he was our own Scott Paradise, now Professor Paradise of Andover. He condensed the century's history of Andover into a fifteen-minute paper that was so fine that the president of the Roxbury Society moved that the League print it and send it to each Historical Society belonging to the League.

Professor Paradise was called back for questioning on changes that had occurred, and we were enlightened as to what had happened to this original seminary for religious training. It was moved to Cambridge, thence to Newton, where it now is.

As announced, the discussion of the afternoon was relative to plans being made by the different societies for the celebration of the bicentenary of Washington's birth.

It was a large gathering, and many places were heard from.

The discussion produced a friendly passage-at-arms between Roxbury and Dorchester. Roxbury claimed to be the richest in historical association of any Massachusetts community. Dorchester just couldn't allow that, and so on, back and forth. It was all very amusing and the meeting was truly a "get-together" of spirit as well as presence.

At its close we were invited to inspect the fine old Blanchard House, built in 1803 and never allowed to deteriorate. At the close of its present occupancy it will be deeded to the Andover Historical Society. Its wall papers are reproductions of those at the period of its construction and are the work of Babson of Salem. The ivory woodwork is rich and mellow from its many coats of paint.

Dresses of many early periods, up to the Civil War days, hang in the closet. Their condition was a surprise. Mull had not yellowed, silks had not cut, flowers on bonnets still retained their colors. Great care must have been taken in their preservation.

Dolls, long since discarded by little girls of the long ago, rocked in their cradles or gazed on this changing world from high-backed chairs; there was fine furniture produced by cabinet-makers whose finished articles were their joy. Somehow they live. The furniture of the olden days is individual, not standardized.

At the close of our wanderings, doughnuts, cheese, apples and cider were served on the piazza looking into the peaceful grounds at the back.

The afternoon closed with a guide taking us to see the house where "America" was written, and thence to the fine estate where Harriet Beecher Stowe lived and labored. Then the Andover Academy buildings claimed our attention, and one could not but appreciate the great care that has been taken that the buildings of so long ago and those of today should meet in blending harmony of architecture.

The fine old seminary building designed by Bulfinch has been moved back on the square. Its present location is doubtless best, because the space it occupied between the two dormitories gives a greater depth of perspective looking up from or through the park. But there is nothing there to compare with the grace of the fan lights over the doors and first-story windows.

Our inspection of the new art building was all too fleeting. It is plain to see that days could be used to profit in visiting Andover. She has so well preserved herself, appreciating her traditions and proudly handing them on to us.

—EMMA M. GRAY.

BAY STATE LEAGUE'S ANNUAL MEETING.

[Extracts from the report of the Reporting Delegate, Elizabeth V. McGray.]

The annual meeting of the Bay State League was held in the Church of the Presidents at Quincy, June 27, 1931, as guest of the Quincy Historical Society. The day was bright and ideal for such a delightful trip.

The interior of "Adams Temple" was delightfully cool, and as we sat in the old-fashioned pew with its swinging door and looked around we were charmed by the wonderful pulpit and organ loft. The curved stairway leading to the pulpit was painted white, with mahogany rails, which followed the custom of the times. This church was built in 1828 and has a crypt containing the remains of President John Adams and his wife Abigail, and of President John Quincy Adams and his wife Louise Catharine. Tablets in their memory are placed one on each side of the chancel.

After the business meeting, led by President Haskell, with a brief outline of the history of Quincy by Rev. Daniel M. Wilson of Quincy and the annual election of officers, a discussion was held on "How to Interest Youth in Historic Subjects." One member had tried classes of Boy and Girl Scouts for study of history and having

them extend their knowledge to others. Others were interested in getting the benefits of a well-equipped historical society's library to all who had time to give to it. Patriotism was the keynote of another speaker, who felt that we should give to our children the love of country and its history.

At 2.30 we started on our trip to famous homes. The first stop was at the Dorothy Q. house, which is two hundred and ninety-six years old. We were graciously received by the custodian and conducted through the various rooms and given the history of each one. There are treasures in this house that must be seen to be appreciated. The high lights were the paper, in excellent state of preservation, which was brought from abroad to decorate the house for Dorothy's wedding; the beautiful period furniture, china, pictures and rugs, all brought in at a time when real art was an every-day delight.

Our next stop was at the home of President John Adams and his son John Quincy Adams, now occupied as a residence by his descendants. The house was erected in 1732 by Major Leonard Vassall and purchased by President Adams in 1787. We were greeted by Miss Adams and given the privilege of roaming over the house and garden. Such a stately garden, in full bloom!

We also had the privilege of entering the library of Charles Francis Adams, Secretary of the Navy and a direct descendant of John Adams. This was in a building on the estate and was filled with treasures. It brought to mind a remark of President Haskell's, made in the earlier part of the afternoon, that if your study was large your thoughts would be also. Certainly Mr. Adams must have a wide scope of thought.

Our last stop was at the birthplace of President John Adams, where we were served coffee, cakes and sherbet.

While on a tour of inspection among the treasures a motto over the kitchen door caught our eyes. It was said by Abigail Adams to her husband in 1783 when troubles seemed to weigh him down: "This little cottage

has more heartfelt satisfaction for you than the most brilliant court can afford."

FOLLOWING THE CANAL TO WOBURN.

The Program Committee of the Society, with the beginning of the 1931-1932 season, inaugurated a series of historical pilgrimages which should make members more familiar with their neighbors and alive to all the problems and ambitions of other historical societies. These pilgrimages were planned for one a month, in addition to the regular program, and included also the quarterly meetings of the Bay State League.

The first pilgrimage, after the Bay State League meeting in June, was taken to Woburn and followed in its course the trail of the Middlesex canal. Private cars, on September 26th, were found in sufficient numbers to accommodate all pilgrims, and each car had a guide familiar with the course and story of the canal—Mr. Mann, Mr. Miller, Mr. Will Eddy and Mrs. Coolidge.

The first point of destination was that point on the Somerville boundary where the canal entered Medford. Here on Mystic avenue the river, turnpike and canal ran so closely together that a teamster on the pike could flick the long lash of his whip into the waters of the Mystic on one hand and into those of the canal on the other.

Then, passing rapidly down Mystic avenue over Winter and Twopenny brooks, where Isaac Royall had a private landing, past the little old hat factory, down Summer street to Auburn and the Mystic boulevard, the cavalcade still followed closely on the route of the vanished canal.

Under the chimney of the woolen mills the canal route defied pursuit, but the automobiles passed over the Mystic river almost exactly where the canal crossed, on the Boston avenue bridge, noting directly afterwards the terraced sides of the street, once canal towpaths; they still followed its ghost down Sagamore avenue and along

the boulevard until cars were abandoned and pilgrims walked along the bed of the old canal itself to the narrow strait between Bacon pond and Upper Mystic, where the granite blocks of the aqueduct still can be seen in the shallow water.

The aqueduct was built to last a hundred years but was dynamited—its usefulness long since past—when one winter an ice-pack against its solid frame dammed the waters of the Aberjonah so high that cellars of Winchester were flooded.

The canal from this point went into Winchester near Cambridge street and across the newly built residential section to Fletcher street, but the motorists could find little trace of it along the way, though they followed its course by Wedge pond and out to Main street, Winchester.

Winchester as well as Medford had a Canal street, where the road led from the highway to the canal, but time has swept away most of the traces of the canal within the town limits.

Along Horn pond, past two canal taverns where Medford rum flowed freely in its day, along modern streets of Woburn we rode, and in Woburn halted to see a deep cut through which the canal had made its path. The veteran editor, Mr. Moses Mann, remembered an old woman living near who had told him in his youth that she remembered when a steamboat, the *General Sullivan*, had revolutionized canal life by steaming through the narrow cut. As the high speed of passenger boats on the canal was four miles an hour and two and a half for freight, the noisy little steamer had made an indelible impression.

It was noteworthy throughout the trip to notice how closely along much of its course the Boston and Maine railroad paralleled the canal. In Medford the canal ran between the railroad and the boulevard along the lakes. In North Woburn the canal itself, still filled with water, hugs the very embankment of the railroad, like a ghost haunting the path of its murderer. Tradition has it that

a canal boat lies buried in the canal near the Baldwin home in North Woburn.

The final objective of the pilgrimage was the Count Rumford birthplace in Woburn, a fine old homestead with panelled walls, great wide floor boards, a brick chimney behind the staircase, and a beautiful garden, the whole establishment, both inside and out, kept in exquisite order by the Rumford Historical Society. Mr. L. Waldo Thompson, the president, who spoke last year before the Medford Historical Society on Count Rumford, was a genial host and had the three essentials of hospitality in evidence, the host on the doorstep, the latchstring out, and a kettle on the hearth, a pleasant journey's end.

The same route was followed on the return to fix on the minds of all the route of that romantic, vanished canal, born of a day when the beauty of the countryside was unmarred by railroad or telegraph pole and life was leisurely.

A pilgrimage to the new Concord Antiquarian Society was taken by members of the Society in November. A description of the progressive development of New England is unfolded in the successive rooms in delightful sequence. From this new building a short trip was made to the famous battlefield and then to the home of Louisa Alcott and the little bare chapel that housed the famous school of philosophy, which apparently practiced what it preached — plain living and high thinking.

**MEDFORD WOMAN FOUNDER OF CINCINNATI'S
FIRST HIGH SCHOOL.**

The Woodward High School in Cincinnati celebrated its centennial last October. This is of interest to Medford, for Mrs. Abigail (Cutter) Woodward, who joined with her husband, William Woodward, in founding and

endowing the school, was a native of Medford. She was the daughter of Joseph and Abigail (Symmes) Cutter and was born here January 1, 1786.

Her mother died before the child was a year old, and two years later her father migrated with friends to the "Northwest Territory," settling in Losantiville, now the city of Cincinnati. He took up land in what is now the business centre of the city and became rich and influential.

When his daughter was about fifteen years old he was captured by the Indians while out inspecting his farm and was never heard from again. Abigail was left alone, and as there was much property to care for, William Woodward, who had migrated from Connecticut, was appointed her guardian. Mr. Woodward was one of the leading citizens of the community and much respected.

Although he was much older than Abigail, they were married a few years later. None of their children lived to grow up, but their interest in the education of the children of the community led them to found a free school for the education, first of boys, and later for both boys and girls. They gave land and money for this purpose and appointed trustees to administer the funds. Mrs. Woodward added to these funds before her death in 1852.

After the public school system was organized in Ohio the school was turned over to the city for a high school and given the name of its honored founders. The school is now housed in a large and modern building and benefits from the endowment funds.

FIRSTS AND LASTS IN MEDFORD HISTORY.

July 4, 1631. *Blessing of the Bay* launched, probably not far from Governor Winthrop's house at the Ten Hills, thus beginning the ship-building industry of Medford.

1634. First Cradock bridge built.

- February 11, 1713. Rev. Aaron Porter ordained as the first settled minister in Medford.
1719. Group of Scotch-Irish from Londonderry, New Hampshire, settled near Spot pond and introduced the foot spinning wheel and the culture of potatoes.
1724. Dr. Tufts, Medford's first physician, came to town.
1785. Medford Amicable Fire Association formed.
- September, 1797. Medford Post Office established.
1800. Timothy Bigelow, Medford's first lawyer, settled in Medford.
- May, 1835. Medford High School opened.
- March 7, 1845. Medford Branch Railroad incorporated.
- April 4, 1845. Harmony Lodge, I. O. O. F., instituted.
- 1850 circa. The *Medford Journal*, first newspaper venture in Medford, started.
- September 12, 1854. Mount Hermon Lodge of Masons chartered.
- April, 1855. Town voted to establish a Public Library, to be called the Tufts Library.
- December 24, 1870. Medford Journal established.
1873. Last ship built at Medford.
1874. Police force organized.
- June 19, 1888. Street car service first opened between Winchester and Medford.
- September 9, 1889. Meeting held which resulted in the formation of a National Bank in Medford.
- October 1, 1889. First delivery of mail by carriers.
- October 6, 1892. Town of Medford voted to become a city.
- June 20, 1931. Street car service between Winchester and Medford discontinued.
- June 21, 1931. Bus service between Winchester and Medford established.

MEETINGS OF 1931.

January 28 — At 10 Governors avenue.

Speaker — Mr. William F. Macy.

Subject — "The Nantucket Historical Society."

February 26 — At 10 Governors avenue.

Speaker — Mr. Moses W. Mann.

Subject — "Washington's Visit to General Brooks."

March 18 — At 10 Governors avenue.

Speaker — Mr. George W. Hersey.

Subject — "Medford of the Past"; 168 lantern slides shown and explained.

April 15 — At the First Parish (Unitarian).

"Ye Olde Time Medford Town Meeting." A play by Mr. Wilson Fiske and Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge.

May 18 — At 10 Governors avenue.

Speaker — Mr. L. Waldo Thompson.

Subject — "Life and Achievements of Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford."

Speaker — Mr. Richard B. Coolidge.

Subject — "Historical Sites Along an Automobile Trip to the South."

October 14 — At 10 Governors avenue.

Speaker — Mr. Will C. Eddy.

Subject — "Lantern Slides of Medford, Made by the Mystic Camera Club."

November 23 — At the Old Cradock House.

Speaker — Mr. Harry E. Walker.

Subject — "The History of the Old Cradock House."

Speaker — Mr. Richard B. Coolidge.

Subject — "Washington in Medford."

In April the Medford Society was host to the Bay State Historical League.

[March, 1932.]

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.**Officers for the Year 1932-1933.****President.**

MRS. RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.

Telephone, Mystic 0030.

7 Hastings Lane.

Vice-Presidents.

HARRY E. WALKER.

RICHARD B. COOLIDGE.

CHARLES H. PHINNEY.

EDWARD B. ROLLINS.

Corresponding Secretary.THOMAS M. CONNELL.
10 Tainter Street.**Treasurer.**HERBERT M. MARVEL.
2 Locke Road.**Recording Secretary.**MRS. IONE T. SYLVIA.
10 Gleason Street.**Directors.**EDWARD J. GAFFEY.
CHARLES T. DALY.MRS. HOLLIS E. GRAY.
MRS. MELVILLE T. NICHOLS.**Librarian.**MISS MARY H. DAVIS.
MR. HALL GLEASON, Assistant.**Committees.****House.**EDWARD J. GAFFEY.
ALBERT W. ELLIS.
THOMAS M. CONNELL.MRS. HOLLIS E. GRAY.
ANDREW F. CURTIN.
CHARLES T. DALY.**Program.**

RUTH D. COOLIDGE.

THOMAS M. CONNELL.

Hospitality.

MRS. HOLLIS E. GRAY, Chairman.

MRS. EDWARD J. GAFFEY.
MRS. MELVILLE NICHOLS.
MISS KATHARINE STONE.
MRS. ANDREW F. CURTIN.
MRS. ELIZABETH V. MCGRAY.
MRS. CHARLES H. PHINNEY.
MRS. ORVILLE WHITNEY.MRS. EDWARD W. HAYES.
MRS. E. B. ROLLINS.
MRS. WILBERT LINDQUIST.
MRS. KENNETH HUTCHINS.
MISS CLARICE RICHARDSON.
MRS. H. V. CHIPMAN.
MRS. HERBERT M. MARVEL.**Committee on Publication.**HARRY E. WALKER, Chairman.
J. C. MILLER, JR.
WILSON FISKE.
JOSEPH C. SMITH, Editor.JAMES D. P. WINGATE.
MRS. HOLLIS E. GRAY.
CHARLES H. PHINNEY.
THOMAS M. CONNELL, Business Manager.
MOSES W. MANN, Editor Emeritus.

J. C. MILLER, JR. PRINTER

Printer of the
Medford Historical Register
for more than thirty years
Tel. Mystic 0780

7 Lauriat Place
(off Cross Street)
Medford, Mass.

ANDREW F. CURTIN & SONS, Inc.

*PLUMBING and HEATING
HARDWARE*

**GAS AND ELECTRIC APPLIANCES
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS**

—SPORTING GOODS HEADQUARTERS—

42-48 HIGH ST., MEDFORD

Telephones, Mystic 0081-0082

Established 1883

Medford's Largest Store

Cemetery Memorials

IN

Granite and Marble

TUTTEN BROTHERS

21-27 CANAL STREET

WEST MEDFORD, MASS.



Vol. XXXV.]

[No. 2

HISTORICAL REGISTER



June, 1932

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

C O N T E N T S .

	P A G E
ONE OF THE FIRST VISITING NURSES	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE LATER PHYSICIANS OF MEDFORD. <i>Edward W. Barrett, M.D.</i>	21
DR. GEORGE WESTGATE MILLS. <i>T. M. C.</i>	22
DR. CHARLES VOSE BEMIS. <i>Mary H. Hayes</i>	23
DR. CHARLES MONTRAVILLE GREEN. <i>Robert M. Green</i>	25
DR. JAMES COLBY DORR. <i>J. C. S.</i>	29
DR. JAMES HEDENBERG. <i>J. C. S.</i>	30
DR. PEARL MARTIN. <i>T. M. C.</i>	30
DR. JAMES E. CLEAVES. <i>E. W. B.</i>	31
DR. J. WALTER BEAN. <i>E. W. B.</i>	32
DR. WALTER LANGDON HALL. <i>E. W. B.</i>	32
DR. NORMAN FITCH CHANDLER. <i>E. W. B.</i>	33
DR. PATRICK FRANCIS GAHAN. <i>E. W. B.</i>	33
THE LAWRENCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	34
MEDICAL WORK IN THE SCHOOLS	35
THE MEDFORD VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION. <i>Annie H. McPherson</i>	37
MEDFORD'S DOCTORS	40
IN THE STATE'S OLDEST HOUSE. <i>Wilson Fiske</i>	43

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

Harry E. Walker, Chairman.	James D. P. Wingate.
J. C. Miller, Jr.	Charles H. Phinney.
Joseph C. Smith, Editor.	Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager.
Moses W. Mann, Editor Emeritus.	

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.



ONE OF THE FIRST VISITING NURSES.

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXV.

JUNE, 1932.

No. 2.

THE LATER PHYSICIANS OF MEDFORD.

BY EDWARD W. BARRETT, M.D.

DR. CHARLES M. GREEN, in 1898, traced the medical history of Medford from the earliest town records to the death of Dr. Daniel Swan in 1864, making a casual reference to Dr. Charles V. Bemis, who was living at that time.

His history graphically describes the life of the old-time respected and much honored "family doctor."

The names of the physicians he mentioned, the Doctors Tufts, father and son, Brooks and Swan, were notably prominent among the leaders of the medical profession in Middlesex county. Proud of the achievements of these men and recognizing the high standard they set, their successors, Doctors Bemis, Chandler, Hall, Hedenberg, Cleaves, Bean, Dorr, Martin, Mills and Gahan, strove to equal them in ably and honorably serving the people of our city.

The practice of medicine has changed since the story of the "Early Physicians of Medford" was told so well by Dr. Green. The "family doctor" is now supplanted by the "specialist." The discoveries of Lord Lister and Louis Pasteur have resulted in new theories, relating especially to the causes of disease; surgical cleanliness has permitted operations to be performed without the fear of blood-poisoning; new pain-relieving drugs have been found; methods of preventing the spread of malaria and yellow fever have come into use; preventive treatments are given for typhoid fever and diphtheria; millions of dollars have been spent in the study of cancer and consumption; X-ray machines have come into general use; great hospitals, with free clinics for both the sick and the well, have been established and lay organizations are crying aloud for the socialization of medicine.

When the next historic outline of medical practice in our city shall appear in the REGISTER, the private physician may not be known as such, swallowed up as he may be in State medicine.

DR. GEORGE WESTGATE MILLS.

The history of medicine in Medford would not be complete without reference to the dean of Medford's living physicians, Dr. George Westgate Mills. Dr. Mills was born September 26, 1852, on Forest street, known originally as the Andover pike. His father was Caleb Mills, a native of Dunbarton, N. H., and his mother was Sarah Stickney Sleeper of Hopkinton, N. H. On coming to Medford the family lived in a house just beyond old Love lane. Later Caleb Mills built a house almost opposite, in the shadow of Pine hill (afterward occupied by Elizur Wright), afterward moving back to the original homestead. The marker by the road indicated it as being one mile from Medford square. Here the youth lived while he attended the Cradock school on Summer street and later the old High school on High street, which he left to enter Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, from which he was graduated in 1873. After his graduation he was employed in the drug business, but finding it confining he matriculated at the Harvard Medical School, receiving his degree, in 1879, from the hands of the late Charles W. Eliot.

He opened an office that year in the old Bishop house, owned by his father, at 58 Salem street, and later in the house erected by his father at 60 Salem street, where he practiced for over fifty years.

In August, 1880, he married Miss Anna Burke Pratt of Medford and the union was blessed with four daughters, and a son who died in early youth. The doctor now resides in Lexington with his only living daughter, Mrs. Helen Saville Sargent.

Always interested in military affairs, Dr. Mills enlisted in the infantry and later transferred to the cavalry, advancing to the rank of major in 1908 and retiring as a lieutenant-colonel in 1914. His various commissions in the National Guard bear the signatures of Governors Greenhalge, Guild and Coolidge.

He was one of the most widely known and respected practitioners in Medford when in active practice, always being abreast of the times in his profession. He was the first town physician appointed at a salary in Medford, and a member of the Board of Health for years. His fraternal affiliations are membership in Mount Hermon Lodge, Mystic Royal Arch Chapter and Medford Council, R. and S. M., in Medford, and also a member of Harmony Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Despite his advanced years the doctor still has a keen mind and his reminiscences of old Medford cover a wide field.

Until his retirement a few months ago he was consulted by many patients whose families he had attended for years.

Dr. Mills is a member of the Medford Medical Society and was the chairman of the Medical Board of the Lawrence Memorial Hospital from its opening in 1924 until he resigned in 1931 because of failing health.

—T. M. C.

DR. CHARLES VOSE BEMIS.

Dr. Bemis was born in Boston in June, 1816, the family home being later in Watertown, where his ancestors had an Indian grant of land. In early studies his Latin and Greek were recited to the very brilliant Mrs. Ripley of Concord, who, it was said, mixed her dough and moulded her bread as she listened to Greek verbs.

Entering Harvard with the class of 1835, he was graduated at the age of nineteen, a Phi Beta Kappa man. His professional studies were in part with Dr. Twitchell of Keene, N. H., and Dr. John Ware of Boston and he

was graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1839. He was present at the first use of ether. In later life, as a trustee of the Massachusetts General Hospital for twenty-four years, he was always most deeply interested in its work and expansion.

During the Civil War Dr. Bemis worked whole-heartedly for the Union cause, freely examined Medford men for enlistment in army and navy and gave his services to their families. Going to Washington, he visited many camps and military hospitals.

The Union Club in Boston was founded at that time to stimulate and assist Massachusetts activities in enlisting men and arousing public sentiment for the support of our cause. Dr. Bemis was an early, if not a charter, member and continued this connection throughout his active life.

After taking his degree as an allopathic physician he came to Medford, to a certain extent succeeding Dr. Daniel Swan, an aged homeopathic physician who was retiring. Soon acquiring a large practice, his horse and chaise were well known all over the town and beyond its limits. In one year he presided at the birth of one hundred children.

In those earlier times typhoid fever was no uncommon danger to our people and Dr. Bemis recognized thankfully the great check to that disease which a general pure water supply brought to the town.

In full sympathy with the new wisdom that science gave to medicine, his practice was for a minimum of drugs and for the utmost care, fresh air and cleanliness in treatment of all illness. Of course, in his early service, when access to a hospital was neither quick nor easy, there came more surgery to a physician in general practice than might now be expected; he doubtless had his surprises and emergencies, but was a man of courage and resource in meeting them.

His life was long and valuable to his fellow-men. He died in November, 1906, at the age of ninety years.

The physicians of Medford published the following "In Memoriam" in the *Medford Leader*, the city's newspaper of that time:

We realize to the full the invaluable nature of the services which he rendered not only to his own community but to a wide circle of the sick and suffering.

Keen of observation, quick and decisive in action, he filled a place in his profession of the very highest rank ; and though he is now gone, his memory will long live among the many he saved from suffering or death.

Signed,

JAMES E. CLEAVES,
GEORGE WESTGATE MILLS,
LINCOLN F. SISE.

—MARY H. HAYES.

DR. CHARLES MONTRAVILLE GREEN.

Although most of his medical work was carried on in Boston, Dr. Green kept a close connection with Medford. He was born in Medford December, 1850, the son of George Bent and Melinda (Wetherbee) Green. His immigrant ancestor of the name, Thomas Green, of St. Albans, England, was in New England as early as 1635; from him the Doctor was seventh in descent.

From the primary schools of Medford he passed to the Public Latin School in Boston, from which he entered Harvard College with honors in the autumn of 1870 as a member of the Class of '74. During his years in Cambridge he took high rank in scholarship, was graduated with high academic honors and membership in the Phi Beta Kappa society. He at once entered the Harvard Medical School, at that time located on North Grove street, in the West End, thus beginning an association which was to endure during his entire life. He was given the M.D. degree in 1877, in which year he also became a fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society. The Doctor then devoted himself for two years to hospital work and study abroad, chiefly in Vienna, after which, in

1879, he established himself in private practice at 78 Marlborough street, Boston, as a specialist in obstetrics and gynecology.

Dr. Green became district physician on the staff of the Boston Dispensary, 1879 to 1885, thereafter serving as head of the obstetrical department for twenty-two years. From 1882 to 1885 he was surgeon to outpatients in the Free Hospital for Women. In 1884 he became assistant physician to the Boston Lying-In Hospital; in 1890, assistant visiting physician; 1891, member of the corporation; 1907, visiting physician in chief; resigning in 1915, he became consulting physician.

In 1884 he became physician for the diseases of women in the out-patient department of the Boston City Hospital; 1893, assistant visiting physician; 1896, visiting physician; 1900, senior visiting physician and head of the department. He served as president of the senior staff and chairman of the executive committee from 1907 to 1914, when he resigned upon receiving the appointment of senior surgeon for gynecology and obstetrics.

For several years he was consultant of the Adams Nervine Asylum and consultant of the State hospital at Tewksbury, secretary of the Suffolk District Medical Society, and afterwards a councillor. In 1899 he served as vice-president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and then for more than twenty years on the committee of membership and finance, most of the time as its chairman. He was also treasurer of the Boston Society for Medical Observation, secretary and then president of the Obstetrical Society of Boston, president of the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, and fellow of the American Gynecological Society.

In the Harvard Medical School he was assistant in obstetrics in 1883, instructor in 1886, assistant professor in 1894, assistant professor of obstetrics and clinical gynecology in 1904, professor of obstetrics in 1907, professor of obstetrics and gynecology in 1911. From 1897 to 1907 he was secretary of the Harvard Faculty of Medi-

cine, in 1907 and 1908 acting dean, and from 1899 to 1912 a member of the administrative board, and its secretary for nine years. In 1915 he resigned, being made professor emeritus, and retired from public professional life.

Tribute was paid to Doctor Green by something over three hundred of his professional colleagues on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday, in December, 1925. His contemporaries were joined by very many of the younger men who had sat under his instruction at the Medical School in a complimentary dinner at the Boston Harvard Club.

About the time of entering college Dr. Green enlisted in the Medford Company E of the Fifth Regiment (the Lawrence Light Guard), in which he served seven years as private, sergeant and lieutenant. In 1911 he was chosen president of the Veteran Association of the Lawrence Light Guard. In 1877 he transferred to the First Corps of Cadets, where he served as hospital steward, eighteen years as assistant surgeon, and six years as surgeon with the rank of major. In 1905 he retired from the militia after a continuous service of thirty-four years and was placed upon the retired list with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. On leaving the service, the First Corps of Cadets elected Colonel Green to honorary membership.

In 1922 Dr. Green became secretary of his Harvard class, and thereafter devoted much attention to the direction of class affairs. In 1924, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of graduation, he issued a class report which for thoroughness and attention to detail stands as a model for future class secretaries.

During the World War he assumed many of the duties of a rector who was serving as a chaplain overseas. He was a vestryman of Grace Church in Medford and senior warden of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Boston. In 1915 he was licensed by the Bishop of Massachusetts as a lay reader in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and

served as such under his friend, Reverend George Jarvis Prescott, at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Dr. Green served as a member of the Boston School Committee for five years and was at the time of his death president of the Boston Latin School Association.

The range and variety of his other interests included: councillor of the Harvard Medical Alumni Association; member of the Bunker Hill Monument Association and on its standing committee; member of the Massachusetts Society Sons of the American Revolution, its vice-president in 1891 and for thirty-three years its treasurer; founder and president of the Royall House Association; member of the Massachusetts Society of Colonial Wars and its surgeon, as well as surgeon-general of the National Society of Colonial Wars; member of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the Bostonian Society, the Medford Historical Society, The Bay State Historical League, The Valley Forge Historical Society, Society for Preservation of New England Antiquities, the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society and once its president; member of A Republican Institution in the Town of Boston and once its president, and of the Saint Botolph Club and the Harvard Club of Boston, and an active singer in the Harvard Alumni Chorus.

Dr. Green's interest in the Royall House and in historical and civic affairs connected with Medford is well remembered. Not only was he the founder of the Royall House Association and its president for many years, but he devoted to the preservation and repair of the house a large amount of time, money and personal attention.

Dr. Green was married June 29, 1876, to Helen Lincoln Ware, daughter of John Ware, M.D., (for many years Hersey professor of the theory and practice of physic in the Harvard Medical School) and Helen (Lincoln) Ware of Hingham. Their city dwelling was at 78 Marlborough street, Boston, and in the summer they removed to the estate which the Doctor had always retained in Powder House road, Medford.

Mrs. Green passed away in 1911. There were two children, one of whom died in infancy; the other, Robert Montraville Green, also a doctor of medicine, survives him.

Dr. Green died November 20, 1928, at the home of his son in Brookline.

—ROBERT M. GREEN.

DR. JAMES COLBY DORR.

Dr. Dorr was born at Milton Mills, N. H. Both his paternal and maternal ancestry go back to 1630. His grandfather, Benaiah Dorr, at fifteen ran away to join the Continental army, serving through the war. His great-grandmother, Charity Wentworth, was descended from Elder William Wentworth, one of the founders of Lebanon, Me.

Dr. Dorr was a graduate of Dartmouth, earning his way through college in part by teaching drawing and penmanship. He married Malvina Flint, descendant of Thomas Flint, one of the early settlers of Concord, Mass.

He settled for practice in Medford, building a house at the corner of Salem and Oakland streets, with a stable large enough for five horses; it was quite an estate, with many trees and gardens and shrubbery.

During the Civil War surgeons qualified to perform major operations were sadly needed. Dr. Dorr volunteered and was passed with rating of 100% by a board of surgeons. The most prominent men of Medford as a testimonial of regard presented him with uniform and equipment. In the army he had the rank of major. The official medical history of the Civil War quotes many of his operations.

His health broke down under the strain and the president tried to make life easier by appointing him department medical purveyor.

On his return from war service his experience in surgery made him eager to go to New York as a specialist,

but his family disliked to give up the home here and he continued to practice in Medford until his untimely death — he was only fifty-two years old at his death, which was hastened by overwork and unselfish exposure to all sorts of weather.

—J. C. S.

DR. JAMES HEDENBERG.

Dr. James Hedenberg was born in Troy, N. Y., June 20, 1831, and studied medicine at the Castleton, Vt., Medical School (not now in existence), graduating in 1852. He returned to his native city and practiced there for two years. He married Emma Sarah Ball of Troy. They came to Medford in 1855.

Dr. Hedenberg early embraced the doctrines of the homeopathic school of medicine, and for many years served as instructor in diseases of children at the Boston University Medical School and served as vice-president and president of the Massachusetts Homeopathic Society. Later in life he joined the Massachusetts Medical Society.

His office was at 14 Salem street and his medical practice in Medford covered half a century. He had been for a short time a school teacher in Troy and also did brilliant work on the staff of one of the local papers. These two interests lasted through his life; he was an occasional correspondent of several papers, and served nine years on the Medford school committee.

He was a vestryman for several years of Grace Episcopal church.

—J. C. S.

DR. PEARL MARTIN.

The heroic deeds of doctors are many times unsung, yet in a few cases the services rendered a community have been given public expression. At the time of the smallpox epidemic in 1872-73, Dr. Pearl Martin of Medford took charge of patients and personally isolated him-

self to take care of victims of the disease. He received a vote of thanks from the town.

Dr. Martin was born in Turner, Me., September 29, 1829, and died at Togus, Me., on January 24, 1910, at the age of eighty-one. He came to Medford from Lewiston, Me., in 1868, which city he had served as city physician for five years, after the close of the Civil War. He saw service in the 2d Maine Volunteers, and later in the 103d U. S. Volunteers. He was a graduate of Bowdoin College Medical School at Brunswick, Me., and was a surgeon in the army during the Civil War. After his return from the war with honors, he was discharged as a member of Nim's Battery, and moved to Medford with his wife, Mary D. (Frye) Martin (sister of Senator William B. Frye of Maine), and their two children, William P. and Mary P. Martin (now Mrs. Charles Holyoke of Oakland Street). Dr. Martin was always active in civic affairs and was a member of the Medford Board of Health for twenty years, most of the time as chairman.

He was a charter member and one of the organizers of Post 66, G. A. R., and at one time its commander.

He was appointed by Governor Greenhalge, together with Hon. Warren W. Rawson of Arlington and Henry Turner, as one of the original members of the committee to suppress the gypsy moth. He practised in Medford from 1868 until his retirement. He is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

—T. M. C.

DR. JAMES E. CLEAVES.

Dr. James E. Cleaves was born in Somerville in 1853. He was graduated from Harvard College in 1876 and from the Harvard Medical School three years later.

He moved to Medford in 1879, opening his office at 8 Salem street, where he lived up to the date of his death on June 20, 1915.

He was married in 1882. He had three children, two sons and a daughter.

For twelve years he was a member of the board of health and early in his practice he joined the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was deeply interested in his profession and was one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of the city.

He suffered so much from insomnia that his end came from a self-inflicted wound, on June 20, 1915.

—E. W. B.

DR. J. WALTER BEAN.

Jacob Walter Bean, M.D., was born in Sutton, N. H., June 7, 1855, and he passed to his reward on the same day that his friend and colleague, Dr. James E. Cleaves, died—an event that cast gloom and sorrow over the entire community.

He received his medical degree from the Vermont University Medical School in 1882 and three years later he located in West Medford.

He served on the board of health for twenty-four years, acting as chairman for twelve years.

—E. W. B.

DR. WALTER LANGDON HALL.

Dr. Walter L. Hall, born December 15, 1846, at Augusta, Me., practiced medicine in Medford from 1880 to 1898, when he went into business. He died following an operation October 25, 1906. His home was at 50 Water Street.

Dr. Hall was a graduate of Bowdoin College and of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York. He also took medical courses in Vienna.

He was a member of the board of health in Medford for eight years. He was connected with the Lawrence Light Guard and rose high in Masonry.

In 1872 he married Miss Jennie A. Failing. He had two children, a daughter and a son who became a physician.

—E. W. B.

DR. NORMAN FITCH CHANDLER.

Dr. Norman Fitch Chandler, who was closely associated with his father-in-law, Dr. Bemis, settled in Medford immediately after he was graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1888. As a practitioner he was successful from the start and was soon looked upon as one of the leading physicians in the city and adjacent towns. He was a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society and of the Medford Medical Society. He was invited by Rosewell B. Lawrence to be an incorporator of the new Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Chandler married Miss Alice Goodhue Bemis, by whom he had two children, a son and a daughter.

The place of his birth was Mooers, N. Y. He died on March 6, 1922, in the thirty-fourth year of his residence in Medford.

—E. W. B.

DR. PATRICK FRANCIS GAHAN.

Dr. Patrick F. Gahan, one of the best loved and most respected citizens of our city, passed to his reward March 18, 1931. He was an outstanding example of the family doctor, and his practice was marked with distinguished success. His kindness and charitable disposition, his generosity in cheerfully serving all regardless of their condition in life were proverbial. He was a benefactor of the Lawrence Memorial Hospital, of which he was an incorporator and a director.

He was a member of the American, Massachusetts, and Medford Medical Societies, as well as many other scientific, fraternal and civic organizations.

Dr. Gahan was born in Holliston July 5, 1864, and after receiving his medical degree in 1896 from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, took up his residence in our city.

He is survived by his widow, who was Miss Elizabeth J. Mannix, and by a daughter and three sons, one of whom is a practicing physician in Medford, and the other two are studying medicine.

—E. W. B.

THE LAWRENCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Daniel Warren Lawrence provided in his will, which he made in 1887, for the erection of a hospital by a corporation to be created for that purpose within two years after his death. He passed away in 1921.

The corporation was formed, with one of his sons, Rosewell Bigelow Lawrence,* as its president, having associated with him the following citizens:—

Sidney Gleason	William C. Wait
Richard B. Coolidge	Frederick W. Fosdick
Ernest B. Moore	*George O. Foster
Harvey C. Voorhees	Charles B. Buss
*Norman F. Chandler, M.D.	*Edward S. Randall
*Patrick F. Gahan, M.D.	*Percy W. Richardson
Lewis H. Lovering	Clifford M. Brewer
*Andrew F. Curtin	*George W. Lawrence

*Deceased

For the erection of the hospital Mr. Lawrence gave \$100,000, and for its maintenance he created a trust fund of \$300,000. By the death of his two sons, this entire amount became available. From this an annual income of about \$12,000 is derived.

Mrs. Carolin R. Lawrence, widow of Gen. Samuel C. Lawrence, gave to the corporation the tract of land on which the hospital now stands.

To meet the cost of the hospital, which because of modern prices of labor and materials required more than four times the amount designated in the will, a public subscription was inaugurated. This resulted in the needed sum for the hospital building itself and for the service building.

Charles B. Dunham, with Edward F. Stevens as consultant, was chosen architect. Mr. Dunham provided plans also for future development of the institution.

The hospital with its modern equipment was opened April 1, 1924, with a capacity of 52 beds. At present there are 72 beds for adults and 36 cribs for babies.

In 1925 a nurses' home was constructed at a cost of nearly \$80,000. Five years later this building was enlarged at an expense of \$60,000.

The officers of the hospital consist of the president, Ernest B. Moore; vice-presidents, William C. Wait and Frederick W. Fosdick; clerk, Richard B. Coolidge; treasurer, Sidney Gleason. These, with six members of the corporation, serve as Directors.

Dr. George Westgate Mills was chairman of the Medical Board, which consists of seven members, until he resigned because of ill health in 1931.

Miss Lena I. Johnston has been superintendent since the founding of the hospital.

The institution depends on contributions and endowments for its maintenance and is in no way supported by the city. It has the rating of Grade A, under the standard established by the American College of Surgeons.

The annual ratio of adult females to males admitted to the hospital has been four to one.

There is no out-patient department, as such, connected with the hospital, but the number of accident cases received and treated runs into the hundreds each year.

The number of babies born in the hospital is more than 700 each year.

A Training School for nurses is connected with the hospital. Its course of instruction covers a period of three years. To date four classes (48 graduates) have received diplomas.

MEDICAL WORK IN THE SCHOOLS.

Medical work in the schools of Medford is only a quarter of a century old. The first school physician was appointed by the school committee in 1906, Dr. Irving E. Stowe. He was followed by Dr. Lincoln F. Sise and then Dr. Harry Burrell. These three physicians were unaided by school nurses and their salaries were low—but they did pioneer work which was so sound that some of their methods are still in use.

Dr. Burrell resigned when the World War called him into service in 1918. No physician was immediately

available to take his place, but the work of medical inspection had proved too valuable to be abandoned. Dr. Edward W. Barrett was a member of the school committee, and was asked to "carry on" until some permanent arrangement could be made. Later he was regularly appointed to the position. The Civil Service Commission raised the objection that a member of the committee could not serve in a capacity that placed him under the direction of the superintendent, who is himself appointed by the committee. So important seemed the legal question involved that the case was carried to the Supreme Court, which decided that the arrangement was illegal. Dr. Barrett then resigned, in 1925, from the school committee and has continued as school physician ever since.

During the war the Red Cross did not confine its activities to war work, but in 1918 offered a school nurse to the committee, which three years later took over her services under regular appointment. Then in 1921 a dental nurse was assigned to the schools by the local board of health.

From that time, when the medical inspection department consisted of one school physician, one school nurse and one dental nurse, it has been enlarged until now there are five medical inspectors, four nurses, two dentists and one dental nurse. The dentists and the dental clinic are under the direct control of the board of health.

The school physicians examine all the children in the schools every year, while the nurses keep a careful record of the physical defects found. Parents are notified of these defects and are advised to have them corrected by their family doctors. Nurses have frequently taken children to out-patient departments of Boston hospitals.

Much attention is now given to the correction of physical defects in children of pre-school age. The school physicians during the month of May devote much time to this work.

The prevention of disease has claimed the attention of school physicians during the last ten or fifteen years,

particularly since methods of preventing diphtheria have been employed.

In 1924 Dr. E. W. Barrett first introduced the test (called the Schick Test, after its discoverer) to determine what children were susceptible to diphtheria and those who were immune from it. The former, with the consent of their parents, are inoculated with the serum furnished by the State. Children in all first grades are now given the opportunity to receive this preventive treatment without cost to them.

About four years ago a sight-saving class was started under the supervision of a special teacher.

The school nurses are employed on full-time for ten months in the year, while the school doctors are on part-time, each working in his or her own district, as laid out by the school committee.

THE MEDFORD VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION.

"There was in the Medford Savings Bank \$330.00 balances and interest of money subscribed for the North End Tree, Medford Branch of Massachusetts Infant Asylum, the Boarding of Children and Children's Home in Parmenter street, Boston.

"Through many changes Mrs. N. P. Hallowell, Mrs. C. B. Crockett, Mrs. Edith Sise, Miss Alice Ayres and Miss Bemis represented these charities. They formed themselves into a committee of organization for a 'District Nursing Association of Medford,' thinking that a satisfactory use of the money. . . ." (Quoted from the Records.)

The officers of this association for the year 1900 were: President, Mrs. R. P. Hallowell; vice-presidents, George F. Porter, George Crockett; treasurer, George W. Green; secretary, Miss Ellen S. Harlow. Chairmen: Finance Committee, Miss Bemis; Nursing Committee, Mrs. Edith Sise; Supply Committee, Mrs. C. B. Crockett.

The first nurse, Miss Row, was engaged in June, 1900, at \$50.00 per month and served three years, Mrs. Taylor succeeding her.

Mrs. Hallowell served as president for two years, and upon her resignation Mrs. Abby D. Saxe succeeded her. The first meetings were held at the home of Miss Bemis, 80 High street.

The association was incorporated October 8, 1907, in the office of J. Mott Hallowell, the incorporating lawyer. The following took part in the proceedings: Abby D. Saxe, Louise T. Hallowell, George W. Green, Elizabeth P. Phillips, Clarence L. Eaton, Burt Leon Yorke, Fanny E. Bemis, Katherine M. Mahoney, Marian L. Hallowell, Fannie E. Palmer, Julia M. Porter, Marion S. Gleason, James E. Cleaves, Norman F. Chandler, J. Walter Bean, George H. Packard, Lincoln F. Sise, Mary W. Parker, Asaphene De F. Manning, Letitia G. Kummer, Jessie H. Stowe, Ellen M. Gill, Alice G. Chandler and Katherine D. Duane. Mrs. Saxe was elected president; Mr. George Green, treasurer; and Mrs. Louise Hallowell, Secretary.

At that time Mrs. Oakes was the nurse, and made her calls on a bicycle and also used the public carriage. The first year the expense and upkeep of the bicycle amounted to \$4.60.

In 1908 there were 479 members and it was felt that efforts must be made to increase the membership.

Mrs. Saxe died in 1908 and Mrs. E. H. Phillips succeeded her and was president until 1915. In 1911 Mrs. Hallowell was succeeded by Mrs. Clara Langell as secretary, and in 1912 Mrs. Edward Hayes succeeded Mr. Green as treasurer.

In 1910 the association was re-incorporated, providing for the addition of a committee to do relief work under the name of "the bureau of friendly help." Dr. George H. Packard was chairman of this committee and Mrs. Grace Wing was the paid social worker.

In 1915 Dr. Lincoln Sise became president; Mrs. Kenneth Hutchins, treasurer; and Miss Helen Buss, secretary.

Miss Gertrude Loveren was hired as nurse in 1908 and served six years, succeeded in turn by Miss Ward, Miss Donaghue, Miss Sweeney and Miss Larkin.

Mrs. Walter Whitehead was elected president in 1918 and served until 1923, when Mrs. Ernest R. Brackett succeeded her, who is now in office. Mrs. Charles McPherson succeeded Miss Buss in 1918.

From January, 1920, to December, 1922, the association was inactive; during that time the Red Cross assumed all the duties and activities of such an organization. When the Red Cross Chapter closed the active work in December, 1922, the officers of the Medford Visiting Nurse Association again took charge. The by-laws were amended to meet new requirements, and the "bureau of friendly help" was changed to "the child welfare committee," and the tuberculosis committee was discontinued. In the early days of the association much work was done along that line, but with the general improvement and establishing of public sanitariums the demands were not so great.

Since 1922 there has been a slow, steady increase in interest, membership and activities along the modern lines of nursing and welfare work until today we stand well established in the community for conscientious bedside care, careful and efficient social work and sound financial standing.

Whereas the first nurses used bicycles and the public carriage, we now own our third automobile. Where formerly one nurse could attend to everything, the work is now so heavy that extra help for our three nurses is needed at times.

In 1908 a tag day was held and over \$1,700.00 collected, which was divided with the Home for Aged Men and Women. In 1910 a bazaar was held in the old Opera House, with a play in the evening, "One Night Only." Other entertainments have been: "The Mexican Market and Cook Shop," at the residence of Mrs. Wilton B. Fay; a lawn party at the Royall House; two plays, "Edge of

the World," "Green Stockings"; dance, card parties, and since 1923 an annual operetta. The following have been produced: "The Geisha," "A Runaway Girl," "San Toy," "The Red Mill," "Sweethearts," "The Prince of Pilsen," "Mlle. Modiste," "The Firefly," "The Enchantress," and "Be Yourself." These have been under the direction of Dr. Charles W. McPherson and Mr. Henry I. Dale.

In 1918 the first house-to-house canvass for members was held, and has been repeated almost each year since.

Baby conferences are held each week, with a steady attendance.

The association has always been helped by churches and organizations of the city as well as by individuals, and is dependent on their gifts of money and supplies to carry on the work.

The present office is at 107 Salem street, where a secretary, Miss McLeod, answers calls, and where a supply of clothing and emergency supplies is on hand. The three nurses at present are Miss Esther Simpson, Miss Beatrice Simpson and Miss Ivy Simpson.

May this brief history of the Medford Visiting Nurse Association recall to mind those who had the broad vision to establish this community service, and serve to arouse the interest of those to whom the work is new.

—ANNIE H. MCPHERSON.

MEDFORD'S DOCTORS.

The Publication Board of the Medford Historical Society mailed questionnaires to every doctor registered as practicing in Medford, asking specific information, to be printed in this issue as a matter of historical record. With few exceptions, all replied as follows, alphabetically listed:

Edward W. Barrett

104 Salem Street
 Born June 6, 1869, Milford, Mass.
 B. S., Mass. State College
 Jefferson Medical College
 General Medical Practice.

Charles F. K. Bean

51 Harvard Avenue, W. Medford
 Born Mch. 28, 1885, Lyme, N. H.
 A.B., Tufts College
 Harvard Medical School
 Medicine and Surgery

Samuel Bolan

322 Boston Avenue
 Born Dec. 3, 1906, Chelsea, Mass.
 Tufts Medical School
 Medicine and Pediatrics

Walter T. Burke

112 Salem Street
 Born 1868, Natick, Mass.
 Harvard Medical School
 General Practice

Clifford Allen Butterfield

13 Bradlee Road
 Born Sept. 25, 1892, Kingman, Me.
 University of Maine
 Tufts Medical School
 General Medicine and Surgery

Franklin E. Campbell

414 High Street
 Born Feb. 2, 1879, Manchester,
 N. H.
 Harvard Medical School
 Surgery

Richard A. Drake

298 High Street
 Born Jan. 13, 1879, Cambridge,
 Mass.
 Harvard Medical School
 Pediatrics

Charles R. Draper

37 Forest Street
 Born Jan. 4, 1863, Sheldon, Vt.
 University of Vermont, College of
 Physicians and Surgeons, New
 York City
 General Practice

Mary Emery

68 Ashland Street
 Born Dec. 31, 1869, Boston, Mass.
 A. S. O., Kirksville, Mo.
 Physician

Edwin Rahn Fleming

322 Boston Avenue
 Born May 29, 1879, Belleville, Pa.
 Jefferson Medical College
 Obstetrics and Gynecology

John Winthrop Gahan

19 Washington Street
 Born June 19, 1903, Medford, Mass.
 A.B., Georgetown University;
 Sc.M., Boston College; Jeffer-
 son Medical College
 General Medicine and Surgery

J. Laurence Golden

492 Salem Street
 Born Aug. 2, 1905, Woburn, Mass.
 Tufts Medical School
 Surgery and Obstetrics

Andrew D. Guthrie

408 Salem Street
 Born Feb. 17, 1891, Roxbury, Mass.
 Tufts Medical School
 General Medicine

Paul J. D. Haley

49 High Street
 Born 1887, Boston, Mass.
 Dartmouth Medical School
 Specialty: Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat

Alfred Joseph Hawks

64 Salem Street
 Born Jan. 8, 1869, Ashfield, Mass.
 Boston University Medical School
 General Practice

Frederick R. Ilsley

69 Washington Street
 Born Aug. 3, 1870, Chelsea, Mass.
 Harvard Medical School
 Proctology

William N. Lanigan

187 Main Street
 Born June 14, 1899, Marlboro, Mass.
 Tufts Medical School
 Orthopedics

Robert Edward Lincoln

611 High Street
 Born May 17, 1899, Milton, Mass.
 Boston University Medical School
 General Medicine, Physiologic
 Research

Bart. F. Macchia
408 Main Street
Born Oct. 4, 1899, Italy
Tufts Medical School
Gynecology and Obstetrics

Thomas J. Maguire
112 Otis Street
Born Natick, Mass.
Harvard Medical School
General Practice

John J. Manley
13 Stearns Avenue
Born Mch., 1901, Charlestown,
Mass.
Middlesex College of Medicine
and Surgery (School of Podi-
atry), N. E. College of Podiatry
Podiatrist (Chiropodist)

Ray Thomas McDonald
322 Boston Avenue
Born Nov. 12, 1886, Somerville,
Mass.
Tufts Medical School
General Practice

A. Ernest Mills
76 Boston Avenue, West Medford
Born Dec. 22, 1899, Somerville,
Mass.
Tufts Medical School
General Practice

Walter A. Routenberg
55 Forest Street
Born Oct. 18, 1900, Cambridge,
Mass.
Mass. College of Osteopathy
Osteopathy

Robert Henry Veitch
95 High Street
Born Dec. 19, 1890, Christchurch,
New Zealand
Middlesex College of Medicine
General Practice

DENTISTS.

Hazelton Barker Davis
5 High Street
Born July 9, 1895, Medford, Mass.
Harvard Dental School
Dentistry

A. G. Farquhar
5 High Street
Born Oct. 24, 1894, Gilbertville,
Mass.
Tufts Dental School
Dentistry

Philip S. Farrell
308 Boston Avenue
Born Apr. 5, 1888, Sturgeon, P.E.I.
Dentistry

Laurence A. Finnegan
326 Boston Avenue
Born July 24, 1905, Somerville,
Mass.
Tufts Dental School
Dentistry

Edward T. Gilligan
11 Salem Street, Coolidge Bldg.
Born Mch. 14, 1906, Eastport, Me.
Tufts Dental School
Dentistry and Dental Surgery

Hayward W. Gussman
1 Coolidge Building
Born Adams, N. Y.
Tufts Dental School
Dentistry

Charles W. McPherson
23 Forest Street
Born Dec., 1877, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Dental School
Dentistry

John Edward O'Donnell
3 Ashland Street
Born Nov. 9, 1880, Marlboro, Mass.
Tufts Dental School
Dentistry

Robert W. O'Hearn
148 High Street
Born Jan. 10, 1902, Everett, Mass.
Harvard Dental School
Dentistry

J. F. Roberts
410 Main Street
Born England
Tufts Dental School
Dentistry

IN THE STATE'S OLDEST HOUSE.

The May meeting of the Society was held at the old Blanchard house in Wellington, on invitation of Mrs. C. H. Bird and Miss Dorothy W. Bird. Mr. Wilson Fiske read a most interesting paper on the history of the house, in which he brought to light the fact that official records show that the house was built in 1657. Mr. Fiske's paper in part was as follows:

On April 1, 1634, the General Court granted two hundred acres of land to Mr. Nowell on the west side of the North river called Three Mile brook, now the Malden river, and two hundred acres to Mr. John Wilson, pastor of the church in Boston, "next to the land granted to Mr. Nowell on the South, and next to Meadford on the North." This grant included the site of this house.

On March 4, 1635, the Court granted "to Mr. Cradock, Merchant, all the land betwixt Mr. Nowell and Mr. Wilson on the East and the partition betwixt Mystic Ponds on the West; bounded with Mystic River on the South and the rocks on the North." It will be seen that the Nowell and Wilson grants were precedent even to the grant to Governor Cradock. And there is evidence that the good Governor felt in some sort aggrieved—apparently not so much by their priority as by the reported better quality of the land.

Meanwhile Governor Winthrop owned the land south of the Mystic, from Charlestown to College hill, known as Ten Hills farm, where he had settled in 1630.

Mr. Wilson sold to Thomas Blanchard of Braintree his farm, excepting two small lots, on twelfth month, twelfth day, 1650. Remark that "twelfth month" then meant February.

Thomas Blanchard died in 1654 and his farm was divided between his sons George and Nathaniel. On August 27, 1657, Nathaniel Blanchard sold to his brother Samuel ten acres, known as "the flax grounds, on which said Samuel is now building a house." So we have official record of the date of the building of Samuel Blanchard's house—this house. George Blanchard continued to live on his own inherited half of the farm.

For a little more than a century these lands, with some neighboring additions, remained in the Blanchard family;

the road hither from Medford, Riverside avenue, being down on the map as "the way to Blanchards." Then in 1756 the Blanchards of that day sold all their holdings to Jabez Bradbury, described as of St. George's river, County of York, in the Colony of Massachusetts Bay (we should say Maine now.) In 1757 he bought from Hugh Floyd of Malden some ninety-four acres adjoining. All which, amounting to some one hundred and eighty-four acres, he conveyed in 1773 to his two nephews, Jonathan and Wymond Bradbury, and their sister's husband, Samuel Greenleaf, "for love and affection—and two hundred pounds." In 1774 Jonathan sold his third to Wymond.

Captain Wymond Bradbury died in 1810, his wife in 1818. In 1819 the Bradbury heirs sold the land to James and Isaac Wellington of Lexington, and in the same year the Greenleaf third of the Bradbury estate was deeded to the same grantees by the heirs of Samuel Greenleaf.

James Wellington married Susanna Jacobs in 1821. In 1823 Isaac married her sister Mary. The two brothers and their wives lived together in the old house and brought up their families from a common purse—nine children in all. And two sons of Isaac Wellington, Isaac Baldwin and Luther Brooks, married respectively two sisters, Eunice and Susan Blanchard. Two grandsons also married sisters.

As the families grew up the old house became too small. James built the house on the corner of Riverside and Middlesex avenues, and Isaac built the house next door to this, now occupied by Mr. Walker.

That second Isaac Wellington house was sold by the Wellington family to its present occupant, and with it went this original house; which latter, however, is still occupied by descendants of Isaac Wellington, whose granddaughter and great-granddaughter are our hostesses tonight.

—WILSON FISKE.

Your Financial Problems

can be solved and easily handled if you avail yourself of our facilities which are especially adapted to meet your needs.

Come in and talk them over without any obligation.

If you haven't any such problems, you still need our larger dividends to assist you in the investment of your savings.

Medford Co-operative Bank

60 HIGH STREET

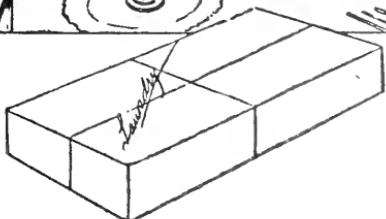
MEDFORD

THE PLACE WHERE DOLLARS GROW

Medford Laundry Co.

**15 Crescent Street
Medford**

Telephone Mystic 1557



Compliments of

ARTHUR H. BALLARD, Inc.

**Oil Burners and Fuel Oils
For All Types of Residences**

**535 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BOSTON, MASS.**

Kenmore 4670



Vol. XXXV.]

NOV 25 1932

[No. 3.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



September, 1932

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

C O N T E N T S .

	P A G E
THIRTY YEARS' GROWTH OF MEDFORD SCHOOLS. <i>Katharine H. Stone</i>	45
ROYALL HOUSE TWICE IN THE PUBLIC EYE. <i>Emma M. Gray</i>	55
WASHINGTON AND THE ROYALL HOUSE	56
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF WILSON FISKE	58
WILSON FISKE. <i>Paul S. Fiske</i>	58
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF ANDREW FRANCIS CURTIN	60

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

M E D F O R D H I S T O R I C A L R E G I S T E R .

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

Harry E. Walker, Chairman.	James D. P. Wingate.
J. C. Miller, Jr.	Charles H. Phinney.
Joseph C. Smith, Editor.	Mrs. Hollis E. Gray.
Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager.	
Moses W. Mann, Editor Emeritus.	

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

F O R M O F B E Q U E S T .

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXV.

SEPTEMBER, 1932.

No. 3.

THIRTY YEARS' GROWTH OF MEDFORD SCHOOLS.

BY KATHARINE H. STONE.

IN 1900 the City of Medford had a population of 18,244 and a school population of 3,264. In 1931 the city had grown to be more than three times as large, with a population of 62,300, and there were more than three times as many pupils in the schools, or 11,699.

In 1900 the cost of the public schools was \$95,924.82 and in 1931 it was \$899,064. These figures show what changed conditions have had to be met for the schools alone, and it is the purpose of this sketch to point out some of the more important things that have been accomplished, for Medford has kept pace with its growing needs and with the progress in educational methods.

Schoolhouse construction has been of the first importance, for furnishing seats and suitable surroundings for the growing army of children has been no small task. At the beginning of this period the Franklin School on Central avenue had just been completed, giving much needed relief to the eastern section of the city.

The other buildings then in use were the High School on Forest street, a comparatively new building, and the old High School on High street now known as the Centre School. East of Medford square were the Everett, Washington, Franklin, James, Curtis and Swan; at Wellington the Osgood; south of the Square were the Tufts, Lincoln, Cradock and Cummings; at the Hillside, the school of the same name; in West Medford the Brooks, Gleason, Hall and Hervey—eighteen buildings in all. Some of them were then old.

In its report for 1904 the Committee says: "we have the remarkable number of twelve primary buildings, six of which have only two rooms, four have five rooms, and one has eight. Two-room buildings have become a

luxury which we can no longer afford, both on account of the cost of repairs and also for the difficulty of administration which is serious."

By the terms of the city charter, the School Committee was given power and authority, subject to the approval of the Mayor, to select and purchase land for school purposes and to determine plans of all school buildings to be erected. The Board of Aldermen were asked to make the necessary appropriations, and the contracts were let by the Mayor. The annual reports of the Committee show that it realized fully the immediate needs and foresaw future ones, but the fear of a high tax rate seems often to have prevented the Aldermen from making the appropriations.

In its report for 1915 the School Committee protested against the invasion of its rights and responsibilities by the Mayor and Aldermen, who were making appropriations for special objects against which the committee had decided.

About 1920 serious dissatisfaction arose over the cost of a new building at Fulton Heights, and as a result an amendment to the city charter was secured from the Legislature, May 16, 1921, which provided for a Schoolhouse Building Commission. Full powers were given to the Commission in everything pertaining to schoolhouse construction. In his report for 1922 the Superintendent of Schools characterized this as by far the most momentous school event in Medford for many years.

As it took from two to four years after an appropriation was requested before it was made and the building erected it was impossible to keep pace with the increased need for additional space. A table appended to this article gives the list of school buildings erected since 1900.

In 1910 the School Committee made a careful study of the present and future needs and reported a building plan for immediate adoption. Seven building projects were named, beginning with the enlargement of the High School to accommodate 1200 pupils, double its original

capacity; new buildings or enlargements at Wellington, South Medford and West Medford. It was three years later that the first addition to the High School was made, and six years before anything was done at West Medford.

In 1923 experts from outside of Medford were called in to survey the situation and make a plan for present and future buildings. An outline of that survey is given in the annual report for 1923. The rapid growth of the school population for the future was suggested and attention was called to the very large percentage of pupils (90%) who were educated in the public schools.

Up to 1920 the average increase in the number of pupils in our schools was 200; but from then on it has been much larger, between 450 and 500 new pupils being added each year. In 1928 the increase was 626, and in 1930 it was 610.

At the beginning of this period double sessions were necessary in South Medford, and there has hardly been a year since then when they have not been required, either in the elementary schools or the High School. It has often been necessary to use corridors, cloak rooms, basement and attic rooms for class rooms as well as numerous portable buildings. As a result some children in the High School were deprived for several years of the full number of school hours to which they were entitled.

In a radio talk given by Superintendent Kadesch in the spring of 1932, and reported in the *Medford Mercury*, he said that the problem of housing the school children had been tremendous. "In the last ten years Medford has spent over three and a half million dollars in construction, including five new elementary buildings of ten rooms or more, beside an addition to one other. Since 1921 there have been erected three of the most up-to-date and modern junior high schools in the state. During 1929 a Vocational School was built and an addition to the Senior High School which bring the accommodations of the two buildings up to 2,400 pupils. There

are under construction at the present time two new elementary buildings, the Hervey at West Medford and one in the Forest Park section, which will be ready for use in September of this year. This large increase in school rooms has done away with double sessions in all the schools; but the continued increase in population will make it necessary to continue the building of elementary schools in some sections."

While the cost of schools, exclusive of new buildings, has steadily increased, Medford does not spend an undue amount for educational purposes. In 1909, with a school population of 4,097, the total expenditure was \$136,645.10 and the cost per pupil was \$32.50, which was lower than that of Malden, Melrose, Somerville or Everett. The average cost per pupil in the state that year was \$33.49. In 1931, with 11,699 pupils, the total expenditure was nearly a million dollars and the per capita cost was \$79.57. Against this increase in cost must be set the many activities now a part of the school system which were not in effect in 1909.

Thirty years ago the school system consisted of the Kindergarten, three primary grades, six grammar and four high school. An evening school was carried on during part of the winter, for adults and pupils who were not enrolled in the day schools.

The Kindergarten had been started a few years before by funds privately subscribed, the impetus for this effort originating in the Medford Women's Club. But crowded conditions in the elementary schools had made it necessary to raise the age for entrance from four to five. In 1908 these classes were discontinued because of a lack of interest on the part of parents, and also on account of the expense.

As early as 1902 the Superintendent, Mr. Morss, advocated reducing the number of elementary grades from nine to eight, as being in accordance with the best educational usage outside of New England, but it was ten years before this change was made.

A vacation school for young children was opened in 1902 by a volunteer committee of members of the Medford Women's Club. The School Committee gave the use of the rooms in the Cradock building and also contributed some materials. For three summers this volunteer committee carried on the school with a good attendance and then an appropriation for its support was made by the Aldermen. For several years thereafter the city appropriation was supplemented by a donation from the volunteer committee.

In 1909 this school was re-organized with two departments, one for manual training and one for academic work, for pupils who had failed to be promoted in June. The results were wholly satisfactory, with a considerable saving to the city, for some pupils who might otherwise have had to repeat a whole year's work were enabled to continue with their regular classes in the fall. In 1915 no appropriation was made for the school and it was closed, but was re-opened the next year.

The evening school has attracted a much larger number of pupils since vocational courses were offered. In 1930 there were 461 men and women enrolled, an increase of 22% over the previous year. The courses offered were the elementary and high, Americanization and vocational classes for both men and women.

In his report for 1916 Mr. Nickerson, the Superintendent, discussed the advantages of the Junior High School. The essential features are a grouping of the last two years of the elementary grades with the first-year pupils of the High School, and the adoption in this group of more or less differentiated courses of study in place of the single type curriculum common throughout the elementary schools; and also the adoption of departmental instruction in place of the common method by which one teacher gives instruction in all subjects.

It was recognized that some differentiation in courses of study at the age of about twelve conforms more closely to the need of the developing child whose nature at that

time is undergoing a radical change. An essential feature of the school work is supervised study.

After due consideration the school authorities voted to adopt this system and to establish three such schools, one each in the eastern, southern and western sections of the city, and an appropriation for suitable buildings was requested. It was expected that these new schools would relieve the crowded conditions at the Senior High School, but as there were no buildings ready for them no relief was given the Senior High School for several years.

By the adoption of this plan the schools of the city were placed on the 6-3-3 system, six years of elementary work, three of Junior High and three of Senior High.

The first of the Junior High buildings was the Swan, on the site of the old Swan School, which was torn down. The new building was ready for use in 1918.

At South Medford the Lincoln Junior High was opened in 1924 and the Hobbs Junior in West Medford in 1926. In 1927 the Roberts Junior High was finished and put in use, in place of the Swan building, which was already outgrown and which was needed for the elementary grades. Each of these new buildings contains class rooms, laboratories, gymnasium, lunchroom, rooms for vocational classes and assembly hall, together with the necessary offices for administrative work.

Classes for children who were mentally retarded were established in 1920 in compliance with the State law, which is mandatory for any city or town where there are ten or more such children.

Another important step in educational methods was the establishment in 1925 of a department of Research and Guidance, the purpose of which is to serve the best interests of the children and to aid in learning what those interests are. It gives a basis for planning for the exceptionally bright child as well as for the average or the retarded child, and furnishes data for the use of teachers in helping pupils decide what courses to take in Junior High. In addition to the work done under the direct

supervision of the school department, Medford has the benefit of tests made each year by the Harvard Psycho-educational clinic. It is expected that if this work is carried on over a period of years the results will be of great value.

Hand in hand with the changes and the progress in the academic courses has gone the training of the hand. From a simple beginning, when instruction in sewing was all that was provided for the girls and woodwork for the boys, we now have courses for both boys and girls in the well equipped Junior High Schools and in the new Vocational School which is part of the Senior High. These courses are classified as Household Arts, Practical Arts and Vocational Work. The Vocational School, housed in the new building on Bradlee road, fits boys for certain trades and operates under the State Vocational Acts of 1908-1911, and the Federal Acts of 1917. Three-year courses are offered in auto-mechanics, cabinet making, electricity, machine shop, painting and sheet metal, and half of the pupil's time is given to shop work. Section 6 of Chapter 74 provides that Boards of Trustees shall appoint advisory committees composed of members representing local trades, industries and occupations. These citizens are appointed by the School Committee to confer with the Head Master of the Vocational School as to the best methods and policies to be followed, that the school may keep up with the requirements of modern trade, and they must be engaged in the industries which they represent on the Board, but have no vote or control. Evening classes for men were opened in 1930 and were well attended, seventy-two being enrolled.

Changed living conditions and a denser population have increased the need for physical training in the schools and have helped to promote the phenomenal growth of athletic sports in the public schools. The High School boys had military drill for many years, but there was nothing for the girls. In 1901, under the supervision of Miss Caroline Swift, long a teacher in the

High School, the girls collected money to pay the salary of an instructor, and the next year it was voted to adopt the Ling system for all the schools. In a special report on physical training, made by the School Committee in 1907, it was recommended that a director of physical training should be employed who should give all his time to this work, and should have direction of all athletics and physical exercises.

More than twenty-five years ago the School Committee said that the "regulation of athletics presents a problem difficult of solution. It is questionable whether it is conducive to the welfare of a public school system that a game should bring in \$600 and \$200 should be paid to the coach for services. This savors of college sport, if not of professionalism. If the minds of the pupils are distracted by such outside interests, how can the community obtain a reasonable equivalent for the taxes spent in running the schools?"

Since then the difficulties of regulating athletic sports seem not to have been wholly overcome. For some years now all the physical instruction in the city is in the hands of the Director of Physical Training, who is also the head coach in the Senior High School, and in 1931 four teacher coaches were employed for the High School alone. Beside these teacher coaches there were also employed, by the school department, in the other schools two supervisors and nine teachers of athletics. For the last ten years the average gross receipts from athletic sports have averaged \$20,789.

Many years ago the need of medical inspection in the schools, for the prevention of children's diseases, was recognized by the school authorities and an appropriation for a school physician was requested. In 1906 the first school doctor was appointed and paid the munificent salary of \$200 a year. Even then the school population was so large that the demand on the time of a busy doctor was too great. In 1918 the Red Cross offered the services of a school nurse and three years later the

school committee took her over. The work has grown to such proportions that today there are five part-time medical inspectors, four nurses, two dentists and one dental nurse. About four years ago a sight-saving class was started under the supervision of a special teacher.

Medford has always been fortunate in its loyal corps of teachers, many of whom have served the city for long periods and have refused better offers elsewhere. One superintendent said that the teaching force was the greatest asset of the Medford schools. In 1900 the women grade teachers were receiving \$50 a year less than was paid for the same work in 1873, and it was not until 1905 that these salaries were increased to the level of nearly thirty years before. The salary revisions that have been made from time to time have not been excessive and are not more than is necessary to retain teachers of ability in the service of the city. There is not space to tell of the devoted men and women who have helped make our schools what they are today. The *REGISTER* might well devote a special article to them.

Not many years ago a public school department felt that it had fulfilled its duty if it provided academic instruction. Then came the addition of Manual Training, Domestic Science and Health Education. The changes that have come to the world with such startling rapidity have transferred to the schools much of the training which used to be given in the home, and the function of the public schools has been greatly increased. What the public schools of our city are doing today can best be stated in the words of Dr. Kadesch: "I feel that the Medford schools are meeting the general objectives of education by organizing their curriculums to meet the individual needs of pupils, so that they may prepare themselves to earn a livelihood, so that they may gain a knowledge of the wonders of modern science and acquire an appreciation of the worth-while things in life, and in that way may be able to live more useful and better lives, so that they may prepare themselves to function as good

citizens in society, gaining in a measure some understanding of the social, economic and political edges of the community, and last of all, developing in character so that they will gain an appreciation of the rights of others and acquire a profound love for humanity in general."

SCHEDULE OF SCHOOLHOUSE CONSTRUCTION.

		APPROPRIATION
1900	Franklin	\$38,376.75
1901 and 1902	none	
1903	Lincoln, addition	48,450.00
1904	none	
1905	James, addition	28,331.44
1906	none	
1907	Hervey, addition	14,153.00
1908	Dame	94,600.00
1909 and 1910	none	
1911	Osgood	55,799.25
1911	Curtis, addition	14,256.22
1912	none	
1913	High, addition	270,474.34
1914	none	
1915	Hancock	60,481.51
1916	Osgood	31,093.72
1916	Swan Junior High	114,091.24
1917 to 1919	none	
1920	Fulton Heights	144,797.77
1921	none	
1922	Lincoln Junior High	409,838.48
1923	none	
1924	Hobbs Junior High	404,664.21
1925	Davenport	119,701.99
1926	Roberts Junior High	637,877.88
1926	Portables, Forest Park and Webster St.	16,965.42
1927	Osgood, addition	155,825.62
1928	Hillside	132,390.83
1929	High, addition	895,197.04
1929	Columbus	150,375.54
1930	Gleason	124,944.61
		<hr/> \$3,962,686.86
1932	Hervey, approximate	\$84,309.34
1932	Forest Park, approximate	95,284.82

NOTE.—Acknowledgment is made to Mrs. Ellen R. Hayes for valuable assistance in furnishing data.

ROYALL HOUSE TWICE IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

Two hundred years ago, the year of George Washington's birth, the Royall House was purchased by Isaac Royall, Senior, and work was begun to reconstruct the simple country place of Lieutenant Governor Usher into its present form. Today this beautiful old mansion stands admirably preserved and furnished in period, set off from the Charlestown road, now Main street, by ample grounds developed by the city as a park.

Not only do the old house and George Washington celebrate the same birthday, but the two are associated together by the presence of Washington there in the time of the Revolution, if not indeed upon his first and third visits to Boston.

Fitting, therefore, was it that the Royall House Association should bring the old house again into the public eye by giving two public exhibitions in the house. The first was an art exhibit in which the old house, itself an example of the best in colonial architecture, carried on the tradition of beauty by providing the background for the art of today. The second was a reincarnation of the house as it actually was in the days of Washington.

In the last week of May the art exhibition surprised even its sponsors. The exhibition was so exceptional that many hope that each year will see a repetition.

Mr. Charles B. Dunham, as chairman of the hanging committee, carried most of the load, and is to be congratulated for choosing so able a committee as Professor Wright of Tufts and Mr. H. B. Ballou, assisted by Miss June Coolidge and Mr. Thoman S. Esten.

Some two hundred oils, watercolors, etchings, silver-points, pen and pencil sketches, pastels, carvings, sculptures and miscellaneous articles of art were on exhibition, all the work of Medford artists. The hand-painted china from the Nash studios was remarkably beautiful.

A pre-view tea was given to artists and members of the association on the Sunday afternoon before the public

were invited. The tea-table was covered with an exquisite hand-made lace tablecloth under its wealth of old-time Breton, pewter and colonial silver.

The committee in charge of the exhibition included Mr. Charles Dunham, Miss Charlotte B. Hallowell, Mrs. Hollis Gray, Miss Helen Wild, Miss Katharine Stone and Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge.

The second event of the bicentennial was the opening of the house on the seventeenth and eighteenth of June as it was in the days of Washington. For this event the Medford Historical Society and the Royall House Association combined to do honor to Washington's bicentennial in a birthday party to the old manor as well.

A pageant of two hundred years ago was faithfully enacted in each room. Beautiful costumes, many worn in that actual period, heirlooms of all kinds, were brought forth that the world of today might again walk in the days of Washington.

WASHINGTON AND THE ROYALL HOUSE.

In that same year of 1732 when in a quiet home at Wakefield, a new son was born to Virginia and the world, there was passed in our little town of Medford a deed of sale which transferred the estate once owned by Governor Winthrop and then by Lieutenant-Governor Usher of New Hampshire to Colonel Isaac Royall of Antigua. So the bicentennial of George Washington marks also the bicentennial of the erection of the Royall House in its present form. Into the manor house was incorporated the little farmhouse of Governor Winthrop's day and Usher's more pretentious country house, and the outcome was the Royall House as we know it today.

It seemed therefore most suitable that the Medford Historical Society and the Royall House should join in a bicentennial observance, and on June 17th and 18th the Royall House again lived as in the days of Washington.

Out of this celebration came by chance a new addition to the history of the Royall House. Among those who attended the celebration was Professor Albert Bushnell Hart of Harvard, accompanied by his nephew, Lawrence H. Hart, who is serving this year as the official Washington of New England. When Professor Hart was asked whether he knew of any documentary proof of Washington's visit to the Royall House he volunteered that he did and would send the direct quotation. All historians of the Royall House have believed that the General must have visited the house, perhaps as guest of Isaac Royall himself in 1756, when as member of the Governor's council he may well have extended the hospitality of his mansion to the young Virginia colonel. It was felt certain, also, that General Washington must have visited the house when on his tours of inspection as general about the lines around Boston, as General Stark used it as his headquarters. Professor Hart has added the authority which links the name of Washington forever with the Royall House. The following was sent by Professor Hart:—

"The Royall House in Medford was used as headquarters and residence by Major-General Charles Lee as early as July, 1775. General Washington objected to this as being too far removed from the lines occupied by the Continental forces, and ordered Lee to move to some place closer in. On February 19, 1776, General Washington wrote to Major-General John Sullivan, raising a similar objection to his use of the house for a like purpose, 'As I think it too hazardous to trust the left wing of our Army without a General Officer upon the spot in cases of emergency.' Washington made the point that neither General Lee nor General Sullivan should sleep there.

"There is one statement that General Washington was present at the house in daytime. Paul Lunt, a lieutenant, in his diary made entry as follows: 'Sunday, August 13th,

1775.—Two Regulars deserted from Bunker's Hill, swam over to Malden, and were carried to Royal's, General Washington's headquarters.'"

RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF WILSON FISKE.

By the death of Mr. Wilson Fiske on June 17, 1932, the Medford Historical Society has lost a member of long standing, a man ever ready to respond to the call for service in its cause and deeply interested in its objectives. His last public address was made before the meeting of the Society in May, and his last community service in coaching the activities which commemorated the Washington bicentennial and the two-hundredth birthday of the Royall House, a pageant in progress at the hour of his death.

The Society takes this occasion to express its keen sense of sorrow in the death of so valued a member and its deep sympathy for all of his family. His works and his gracious presence will ever abide in memory.

RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.
EVERETT W. STONE.
HARRY E. WALKER.

WILSON FISKE.

Wilson Fiske was born in New York City, May 20, 1855, and spent his early years there and nearby in New Jersey. He was educated in the Pingry School in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and spent two years at New York University, from which he was graduated in 1875.

Although he definitely removed to Boston in 1895, he always retained his interest in the city of Diedrich Knickerbocker, and in the history, literature and legends of Washington Irving's country. He delivered several papers on the Hudson and its history. In particular he cherished fond memories of early days spent on a stock farm in Dutchess County owned by his great-uncle.

In 1880 business brought him to Boston for a few years, and in 1883 he married Annie Trescott Southard of Boston.

While in business in New York City, in the late eighties and early nineties, he lived in Plainfield, New Jersey, where his two children, Paul Southard Fiske and Mildred Fiske (Utter), were born. His hobby at that time was the breeding of English setters, of which he had one of the best-known kennels.

After his wife's death in 1894 business interests and his own inclination combined to bring him again to Boston. He came to Medford in 1896, living in the house at Medford Hillside from which Mr. Leonard J. Manning had just moved to West Medford.

His first interest in Medford was in the schools his children attended. He had been a vigorous worker in the Unitarian Church at Plainfield, and soon became associated with the First Parish in Medford. He was particularly interested in the affairs of the young people, organizing, and leading for several years, a discussion class known as the Progress Club. He was for nearly twenty years a member, and for nine years chairman of the Parish Committee.

Shortly after he moved to West Medford in 1900 he joined the newly organized Neighborhood Club. He had always been interested in dramatic art, so it was natural that he should become one of the standbys of William B. Willson in his amateur theatrical productions on the stage of the Neighborhood Club; and as coach, and sometimes as actor, he frequently helped in the dramatic performances staged at the Unitarian Parish House.

In 1912 he married Susie A. King of Calais, Maine.

Always a reader of history and of genealogical subjects, he joined the Historical Society and was interested especially in looking up and writing down the history of some of Medford's older houses. At the time of the tercentenary he composed, with Mrs. Coolidge, "The Town

Meeting," a dramatic reproduction of early days in Medford, based upon his careful researches in some of the earliest parish records.

Perhaps his greatest local interest was the West Medford Reading Club, which appealed to him both because of its literary activity and also because it perpetuated among congenial neighbors an intellectual interest and activity now almost extinct in the rush of modern life. Besides frequent contribution to the regular program he was for many years its secretary, and his reports, often in verse, displayed literary ability, a sense of humor, and above all an originality, which made them a feature of every meeting.

At the time of his death, on June 17, 1932, he was still actively interested in business, as well as in the church, literary, and social affairs, which had always meant so much to him.

—PAUL S. FISKE.

RESOLUTIONS
ON DEATH OF ANDREW FRANCIS CURTIN.

Resolved that :

In the death of Andrew Francis Curtin the Medford Historical Society finds occasion to mourn the loss of a long-time member, whose helpful hand and substantial wisdom have been a dependence during many years; a citizen of Medford whom it has been glad to call its own; a public official whose unselfish services have gone to make history of the kind it delights to honor.

And the Society expresses its sympathy with his other and nearer family, in the time of their common sorrow.

WILSON FISKE.
RICHARD B. COOLIDGE.
EDWARD A. GAFFEY.

Your Financial Problems

can be solved and easily handled if you avail yourself of our facilities which are especially adapted to meet your needs.

Come in and talk them over without any obligation.

If you haven't any such problems, you still need our larger dividends to assist you in the investment of your savings.

Medford Co-operative Bank

60 HIGH STREET

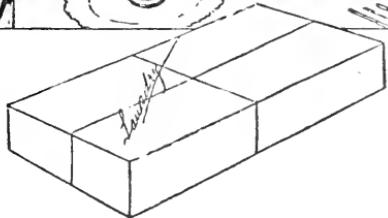
MEDFORD

THE PLACE WHERE DOLLARS GROW

Medford Laundry Co.

15 Crescent Street
Medford

Telephone, Mystic 1557



Compliments of

ARTHUR H. BALLARD, Inc.

Oil Burners and Fuel Oils

For All Types of Residences

Kenmore 4670

535 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BOSTON, MASS.



Vol. XXXV.]

[No. 4.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



FEB 23 1933

December, 1932

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

C O N T E N T S .

	<u>PAGE</u>
HISTORY OF MEDFORD'S POLICE. <i>Daniel W. Connors</i>	61
MEDFORD'S ZONING ORDINANCE. <i>Joseph C. Smith</i>	67
IN WASHINGTON'S HONOR	71
PAGEANT OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO	72
NOTES BY THE WAY. <i>Thomas M. Connell</i>	73
SOCIETY CALENDAR FOR 1932	76

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

Harry E. Walker, Chairman. James D. P. Wingate.
J. C. Miller, Jr. Charles H. Phinney. Mrs. Hollis E. Gray.
Joseph C. Smith, Editor. Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager.
Moses W. Mann, Editor Emeritus.

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXV.

DECEMBER, 1932.

No. 4.

HISTORY OF MEDFORD'S POLICE.

The following paper was read by Chief Daniel W. Connors of the Medford Police Department before the members of the Medford Historical Society. Chief Connors was born on Mystic Avenue in Medford, and attended the old school which stood opposite what is now the Center school on High street, and afterward attended the Cradock school on Summer street. He lived with his parents for many years in the old house which stood on the site now occupied by the Armory. As a young man he was apprenticed in the leather business and rose to be superintendent for Patrick McGowan, who conducted a tannery on Tannery lane, now Brookings street, and Douglas road. He was in the tanning business for ten years.

He was appointed a police officer in 1898. He became a sergeant in 1912, a lieutenant in 1912, captain in 1930, and chief in May, 1931.

THE Medford Police Department was organized as a permanent department on the twenty-first of March, 1870; that is, the first regular night patrol was established, men worked regular hours and were given regular salary. Previous to that time the duty of preserving the public peace, enforcing the laws and the general protection of life and property that falls to the life of a police officer was performed in a measure by constables and special officers elected each year, receiving no stated salary and having no regular hours of duty. They were paid by fees in making arrests, attending court, and in numerous other ways which were open to them at that time.

The first account we have of a peace officer in the town of Medford was on the first Monday in February in the year of our Lord 1677. Goodman John Hall was chosen constable by the inhabitants of the town of Medford for the ensuing year. The title of "Goodman" stood in those days for the title of "Mister" of today. It was only the most honored and influential whom one called by the name "Goodman."

The oath of constable was at that time taken "to Our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, his heirs and successors,

the State and Government of England." This oath stood until the year 1775.

On March 5, 1694, Caleb Brooks was chosen constable for the ensuing year. In the year 1728 Mr. Peter Tufts was elected constable, but refused to take office and paid in his money, as the law demanded, to the town treasurer. The law at that time was that a man elected to a town office and refusing to serve should pay into the town treasury the sum of ten pounds.

From that time up to a meeting of the board of selectmen held on March 24, 1855, various men were elected to the office of constable; some served, and some refused to serve and paid the penalty.

On this date, March 24, 1856, Edward P. Alexander was appointed "Chief of Police and Clerk of the Market" for the ensuing year and was given instructions to enforce the by-laws and preserve the peace of the town of Medford, and make a return on these duties to the selectmen every three months.

The question naturally arises, "What were the duties of clerk of market, and why should they be associated with the office of chief of police?" Medford at that time was a trade center; the shortest and almost the only way for the marketmen and cattlemen to reach Boston and Brighton markets from towns north of Medford was by way of Cradock bridge, as it was the only bridge across the Mystic river for miles. The duties of the clerk of market were those now performed by the sealer of weights and measures, measurer of wood, inspector of the board of health, agent for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the protection of citizens in their dealings with each other.

In March, 1870, when the police department was organized, three officers were appointed as night patrolmen. Besides their regular duties of police officers they were to take care of and light the street lamps. Their pay was to be at the rate of \$55 per month. On August 2, 1870, the pay was increased to \$60 per month.

In the meeting of March 20, 1871, of the board of selectmen, it was voted that William H. Palmer, John F. Sanborn, Luther F. Brooks, John A. Smith, George W. Saville, John Grady, John Richardson and W. F. Alden be appointed policemen for the ensuing year, John Grady, William F. Alden and John Richardson being appointed night police and to care for the street lights, to trim, clean and light the lamps burning oil, and clean the chimneys. In winter, starting out at 3 P.M. with a five-gallon can of oil and a ladder, filling and lighting the lamps, they returned home in time to have supper, reaching the station to go on their routes for night duty.

At the meeting of September, 1871, it was voted to accept the resignation of William F. Alden of the night police. October 2, 1871, Lawrence Ward was appointed night police to have care of and light the street lamps.

At the meeting of December 11, 1871, it was voted that an additional night policeman, E. S. Piper, be appointed. On the same date, having received several communications from the night police asking for more pay, the board voted that night police receive \$70 per month. It will be seen that even at this early date the department had acquired the habit of asking for more pay.

March 10, 1873, the board of selectmen appointed the following policemen for the ensuing year: George W. W. Saville, chief; John F. Sanborn, John Grady, Pyam Cushing, Jr., Daniel K. Richardson, Luther F. Brooks, John A. Smith, Herman Allen, John Richardson, E. S. Piper, Michael Sheehan, and the following as night police: John Grady, E. S. Piper, John Richardson and Michael Sheehan. Also were appointed as special police without pay: Hugh Campbell, Caleb Atherton, Sylvester Buzzell, C. B. Johnson, Luther T. Seaver, John I. Maxwell, and Nathan Durkee. It was also voted at this meeting to supply the police station with Spot Pond water.

October 13, 1873, it was voted that an additional night patrolman be appointed to be stationed in and about the square, to be known as captain or lieutenant of night

police, and October 20 J. J. Frost was appointed captain or lieutenant of police to have charge of the night police, with pay at the rate of \$75 per month. October 25 it was voted that the night police be under the control of the chief of police, the same as the day police.

Prior to May 1, 1884, the chief of police was not on duty in that capacity through all hours of the day; his salary was small and he was not supposed to give his whole time. George W. Saville, who was chief until that date, was also a deputy sheriff, collector of taxes, and carried on outside business besides.

May 1, 1884, the selectmen deemed it the best to have a man who could give his whole time to that office, and they very wisely elected Jophanus H. Whitney, who later became chief of the Massachusetts District Police, he holding the office of chief of police of Medford till November 21, 1887, when he was appointed a member of the state police. On that date the selectmen appointed Emery D. Holmes and he served in that capacity till his retirement.

As it was stated earlier, the office of captain of night police was established in October, 1873. I find no record of that title being abolished or of any other office being established. J. J. Frost was appointed in that place, and for many years after that there was no superior officer on duty or in charge at night; but May 1, 1890, the selectmen provided for the office of sergeant; and Captain J. F. B. Hosea, who had again become identified with the department, was appointed sergeant, which office he retained until his death, April 16, 1893. May 18, 1893, William G. Ewell was appointed sergeant.

The department moved into its present quarters July 11, 1895. In the early days there was a town lockup in the basement of the hook and ladder house on the site of the present armory. It was a dingy place. In later years quarters were provided in the south end of the town hall in the square at corner of Main and High streets. There was an office ten feet by twelve feet which served the

purpose of a guard room, public office, also, may I say, it served as a smoking room for the politicians and kickers at the time. In the rear of this office there were four cells.

April 1, 1894, a patrol wagon was added to the equipment of the department. As there was no stable at that time, it was kept in the Day stable on Salem street, the site of the present Wheeler's garage, and when a call came in it was a case of running a quarter of a mile to the stable to harness.

The Gamewell patrol signal system was installed June 15, 1905, with fifteen boxes in different parts of the city, officers reporting at stated periods during their tour of duty.

From time to time the department has been enlarged, consisting at the present time of a chief, one captain, five lieutenants, five sergeants, fifty-four regular patrolmen, sixteen reserve officers.

For equipment the department has one patrol wagon, one ambulance, four automobiles, two motorcycles, a Gamewell system of officers' reporting from boxes, which has grown from fifteen, the original number of boxes, to thirty-four, besides six red-light signals calling men to their boxes, controlled by switches at the station, one teletype machine, two telephones and a mimeograph machine. Three bulletins are issued in the twenty-four hours and given at each roll call.

The amount of money expended to carry on the department for the year 1931 was \$189,266.35.

During the year 1931, 2609 persons were arrested, 2465 males and 144 females. The amount of property stolen during the year 1931 amounted to \$52,743.40. The amount of property recovered by this department during the year 1931 amounted to \$63,452.31.

In May, 1931, a liquor squad was formed, consisting of a lieutenant and sergeant, and a criminal investigation department, consisting of a lieutenant and a special officer.

Crime prevention can be accomplished if gradually the

police forces of the nation become forceful enough through scientific methods to become a co-operative power to replace organized violence.

The business men and citizens of all communities must think of their police departments in the same terms as they view their own personal ambition.

Organized criminals of today are adequately financed, and our police departments have at their command every form of science, but the police departments are greatly handicapped in many instances by lack of funds to cope with organized crime.

Constructive criticism and proper backing will put any kind of an organization on its feet. Even the modern criminal knows this fact and this is why he is apparently successful today.

If all the police departments in the United States could have continued constructive backing of the Press and the financial help they ask for, crime would be reduced to a minimum.

The modern police officer of today is a professional man in every sense of the word, and his main object is to protect. He is human, and to fight organization with ample capital he needs capital also, so as to apply scientific methods. Organized crime moves from the organized police system areas to the less dangerous areas. Any police department properly equipped can prevent crime and reduce it to a minimum.

The day has passed when a police officer was required to do little more than patrol a route and pull boxes. The police officer of today is a specially trained individual who gains in his service and experience criminal law, first aid, and other subjects. In short, a police officer is now expected to be a combination of a lawyer, detective, arbitrator, and many other professions.

MEDFORD'S ZONING ORDINANCE.

When your nearest neighbor is half a mile away it does not matter so very much what he does there. But as neighbors increase and draw closer and closer, the use of the lot of land next door becomes a matter in which you are very much concerned. The use to which that lot is put may add to the attractiveness of the neighborhood — or it may cut in half the value of your home.

After centuries of letting everybody do pretty much as he pleased, it finally became evident that mere building laws (designed primarily to lessen the fire hazard) were not enough. Gradually the idea of zoning took form; that is, studying a city as a whole, learning its needs and its opportunities, and setting aside certain areas for factories, others for business, others for family residences, apartment houses, etc. The zoning idea grew slowly; it was a new idea and needed time to develop. But its principles are so sound that it is now adopted by every state in the country. Designed primarily for cities and large towns, nearly half the people of America now live in zoned communities.

Europe had zoning of a sort long ago. But it was done not as the result of an idea's natural growth but by the fiat of some arbitrary authority. Some of the results were good; but that method would never be acceptable here.

Along with the zoning idea there came the vision — it is still hardly more than a vision — of real, scientific city planning, of which zoning would be only a part.

The Massachusetts legislature in 1913 passed an act providing that each city and large town should have a planning board, with practically no power to do things, but with almost unlimited power of furnishing ideas and making recommendations. It was all rather vague; the idea was new and no regular program had yet developed. What a planning board could do depended largely upon the initiative of the members, but even more upon the

support, both moral and financial, given to it by the city authorities; scientific city planning requires both brains and money. The first Medford Planning Board found it could accomplish little, and ceased to function when its membership was not kept up by appointments.

When Mayor Coolidge took office he revived the Planning Board, appointing Winthrop I. Nottage, lawyer, Howard A. Goodspeed, architect, Prof. Samuel L. Conner of Tufts, engineer, Frank W. Lovering, builder, and myself. As the oldest member, it was my duty to call the board to order for organization, and for that reason, I presume, I was chosen chairman.

There was little constructive work we could do at first. But the zoning idea had grown; the people of the State had by popular vote in 1918 ratified the zoning amendment proposed by the constitutional convention, and the legislature had enacted laws permitting cities and towns to pass ordinances for that purpose.

In Medford the aldermen under President (afterward Mayor) Larkin had taken up the idea and had had some idea of themselves drawing up such an ordinance. But they soon found out how much of an undertaking it was and turned it over to the Planning Board as the proper body to handle it. They appropriated \$4,000 for the purpose. (Let me say here that we did one of the cheapest jobs on record; we turned back over \$1,000.)

There are two ways of making a zoning ordinance: The easiest—and most expensive—is to turn it over to a firm of experts. The trouble with this method, aside from the great expense, is that a zoning ordinance must fit the city; and outsiders, however expert, are not always able to grasp local conditions and needs. We went at it in another way.

First, we got from the assessors a set of sectional blue print maps of the city. The principal of the High School picked a squad of reliable boys, who brought back on these sectional maps information which was assembled by a Tufts professor on a "present use" map, which

showed every building in the city and the use to which it was put. With this picture of the city before us, we after much deliberation drew up a tentative zoning plan. Then we engaged Mr. E. T. Hartman as consultant.

Mr. Hartman, with some member of the board as guide, tramped all over the city; said an automobile went too fast. Then he sat down with the board to study our tentative map. The board was anxious to have proper changes made, but insisted on being shown where it was wrong. Many were the arguments, good natured but earnest. Mr. Hartman usually had his way, but sometimes he had to admit that our knowledge of local conditions made our position correct. Meanwhile, every opportunity was taken to tell the people of the city what we were doing, and why.

When we were ready, sectional lantern slides of the map were made and meetings were held in every part of the city, to which the public was invited by posters, advertising and mail notices; a stenographer was present, and the consultant and the presiding officer answered and asked innumerable questions. In this way local sentiment and local conditions were brought out in detail. Then the board tried to digest all this information.

But a zoning map is only a part, though an essential one, of a zoning ordinance, which must be explicit about set-backs, height, area, side yards, etc. As the legal member of the board, that was Mr. Nottage's particular province, though each paragraph he presented was discussed in detail by the other members.

In all, the board held nearly sixty meetings before completing its work. Sometimes a whole evening would be spent upon a single paragraph or a single sheet before five differing opinions could be brought into agreement, but our final conclusions were always unanimous.

Then at last we submitted our work to the aldermen. A new board had come into office since we had begun our work and there were some members who were not at first at all in sympathy with zoning. One remarked early

in the proceedings: "Why! Someone might want to do so-and-so and this would stop him!" It is exactly in order to stop him, when his scheme is obnoxious, that there is need of a zoning ordinance. Another said if he wanted to keep hens in his back yard he was going to do it; when asked if he wanted his neighbor to do the same, he thought that was something different.

At the very first session, with the aldermen sitting in committee of the whole, the section prohibiting certain industries as being undesirable in a residential city like Medford was stricken out entirely. They must have heard from their constituents, for at the next session they without a word of comment restored the section and added four other "nuisance" industries to the Planning Board's list.

The aldermen held several public hearings, as required by law. There was some opposition, principally from individuals who were afraid their liberty was threatened. Some of the zone boundaries were changed by the aldermen against the advice of the Planning Board. But when the final vote was taken on the passage of the ordinance there was only one vote against it. It was adopted October 28, 1925.

Of course, any zoning map is not final; a city grows, and changing conditions require changes in the map. But in the main the aldermen have adhered to the underlying principles of zoning. Certain business areas have been enlarged, as has seemed necessary, but most of the efforts to except isolated spots from restriction (for filling stations, for example) have been defeated. The text of the ordinance has been changed in only one minor detail, and that was done with the advice of the Planning Board.

That the public approves of our work has been repeatedly shown; this approval is our recompense for our two years of study and work in preparing the ordinance.

—JOSEPH C. SMITH.

IN WASHINGTON'S HONOR.

In addition to the celebration of the Washington Bicentennial by the Historical Society, the churches and the various social organizations was a most noteworthy observance of the anniversary throughout our school system. From the lowest grades to the Senior High, not a pupil could have failed to see in a new and vivid light the real character and importance of "the father of his country." Many plays were produced by different grades and schools, and a dramatization of the significant events in Washington's life and the events in which he was connected with the flag found a place in practically every school of the city.

In addition to this most effective method of dramatization, emphasis was laid on patriotic song and music of the period, on colonial dance, on a study of the domestic conditions of the day and the furniture and costume of the time. From sand-table projects of Mt. Vernon and Valley Forge and the creation of period costumes for dolls for younger children, the scope of the work broadened until in the Senior High School the household management classes illustrated living conditions of the day with the cooking and serving of food appropriate for a Washington party, the art department drew Washington posters of exceptional merit, and the English department fostered a bicentennial number of the *High School Review*. Research problems, class discussions, and an intensive study of the character of Washington, his citizenship, his value to his country and his example as a great leader focussed the attention of Medford's children on the first president. A detailed account was sent to Washington, at the request of Dr. Sol Bloom, Associate Director of United States Commission for the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the birth of George Washington. His response is a tribute to Medford and her school department.

Quotation from letter of Dr. Sol Bloom to Dr. J. Stevens Kadesch, Superintendent of Schools:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of your outstanding reports of programs for the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration which were conducted in the Medford Public Schools. It has been a great pleasure to examine this interesting report, which shows that a "George Washington Bicentennial Consciousness" has permeated throughout the entire city system. We wish to congratulate your Bicentennial Committee upon the definite program which was formulated and developed, and the many original activities which were introduced.

PAGEANT OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

On the seventeenth and eighteenth of June, 1932, the Medford Historical Society and the Royall House Association combined to do honor to the bicentennial of George Washington's birth, holding a birthday party in the old manor. A pageant of two hundred years ago was enacted in each of the Royall House rooms. Beautiful costumes and heirlooms of all kinds were brought forth that the world of today might truly walk in the days of Washington.

The dining-room staged a scene (founded upon actuality) of the breakfast call of President Washington upon General Brooks. The sketch was written by Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge, and the actors did great credit to the author and themselves.

The dignified lofty parlors greeted the guests with melodies played upon the harp, the instrument of colonial days. In fact, the wedding festivities of Elizabeth Royall and Sir William Pepperell were taking place and eight young couples were gracefully dancing the minuet. Several of the Historical Society's juniors were among these dancers.

The kitchen held people entranced watching the activities of Molly Stark, Reliance, Mercy, Jemima, Abigail Bishop, and dear old Patience in the chimney corner rocking the baby.

Going up the glorious old stairway, the Daughters of the American Revolution rooms actually came to life. Mrs. Ellen Tisdale, in the wedding gown of Sarah Bradlee Fulton, refreshed George Washington with a glass of punch as did her illustrious ancestress when the general called upon her in her home on Main street.

The upper floors were given over to the home industries of that period. Even the big carpet looms were operating on flax spun from the nearby spinning-wheel. An actual quilting party took the two days to complete its work in a frame almost as old as the house.

The park facing the old manor was put in perfect order by the city, and the high school orchestra made an effective contribution in period selections in the slave quarters.

Members of the Lawrence Light Guard in full dress turned guard duty into a colorful parade.

The committee in charge of this birthday celebration were Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge, chairman; Mrs. Hollis E. Gray, Miss Helen T. Wild, Miss Katharine Stone, Mrs. Ernest Brackett, Mrs. Henry Van de Bogert (Sarah Bradlee Fulton), Mrs. Robert Oliver (John Hancock), Mrs. Andrew Patterson (minuteman), Mrs. Frank Pote.

—EMMA C. GRAY.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

NEW FIRE HOUSES.

Despite the economic conditions prevailing during the past year, Medford has seen a number of notable and necessary improvements made within its borders.

The fire station long promised to the residents of Fulton Heights was erected and a company detailed to the station.

Proposals were received and accepted for an engine to occupy the house and it will be delivered shortly.

A new fire station was erected on Riverside avenue, in the Wellington district, to replace the antiquated structure on Spring street occupied by Engine 4. The

company was transferred to the new station, which was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on the same day as the one at Fulton Heights. This station also provides for an additional company when found necessary.

The wooden structure on Spring street has been razed and the material given to the needy for fire-wood.

The approximate cost of both stations was around \$75,000. The Fulton Heights station was designed by the F. Irving Cooper Corporation, Architects, and built by A. C. Peters, Contractor. The Riverside avenue station was designed by M. A. Dyer Co., Architects, and built by the D'Amore Company.

TRAFFIC TOWERS.

Two traffic towers have been erected, one at the southeast corner of Main street and Mystic Valley parkway and the other at the northwest corner of High and Forest streets. These traffic booths not only furnish protection for the officers but are expected to expedite traffic through the square. They are connected with Police Headquarters by telephone and are fitted with heating units for the comfort of the officers.

ROOSEVELT SQUARE TRAFFIC CIRCLE.

The completion of a traffic circle at the junction of Border road, Forest street and Fellsway West (Roosevelt square) removed a very dangerous hazard at that point. It was completed by the Metropolitan District Commission in thirty days and cost approximately \$30,000.

HIGH STREET.

With the removal of the tracks from Governors avenue to the square, High street has been greatly improved. History repeats itself in the fact that motor buses now run from West Medford to Boston over the same route traversed in the old days by horse-drawn buses.

WELFARE.

In common with all communities throughout the country, Medford has wrestled with the problem of taking

care of its citizens who have been thrown out of work by the unemployment situation. Intensive study has been made by the Board of Public Welfare and the needy cared for in an equitable manner. The local Red Cross Chapter has co-operated with the Board of Public Welfare, and flour, cloth and warm under-garments have been distributed, to aid the work of caring for the unfortunate. The work of alleviating distress has been carried on in a commendable manner through Mrs. Teresa A. St. Denis, chairman of the board.

REVERE BEACH PARKWAY EXTENSION.

What is probably the most extensive improvement north of Boston to be undertaken by the Metropolitan District Commission in recent years is the extension of the Revere Beach parkway from a point in Wellington, opposite the present Revere Beach parkway, which will extend across the marshlands to a point opposite Harvard street at Mystic avenue. Work is now in progress placing the fill for the foundation roadway.

The river will be spanned by a bridge at Harvard street and Mystic avenue; \$400,000 has been appropriated for this work. The roadway when finished will be ninety feet wide and have four lanes, with a curbed grass plot in the center. The contract calls for completion of the fill by June 1, 1933. Work has gone on rapidly, due to the open winter.

Plans were completed for an arch bridge, but due to protests from owners of riparian rights along the river north of the bridge who wished to have a draw in the bridge, the United States Government engineers ordered plans changed to include a draw. This has caused some delay in starting the construction of the bridge. It is expected that the matter will be adjudicated and a bridge started soon.

The roadway will be practically one and one-half miles in length and is expected to divert part of the traffic which now passes through Medford square.

—THOMAS M. CONNELL.

SOCIETY CALENDAR FOR 1932.

- January 24—Annual Meeting.
Speaker—Miss Mary H. Davis.
Subject—“The Library of the Historical Society.”
- January 30—Pilgrimage, Arlington, Meeting of the Bay State League.
- February 17—Speaker—Mr. A. Chesley York.
Subject—“Washington the Man.”
Dramatic Sketch—“The Break in the Journey,” by Ruth Dame Coolidge. Presented by pupils of the Hobbs Junior High School.
- February 27—Pilgrimage to Watertown, guests of the Watertown Historical Society.
- March 22—Speaker—Prof. Albert T. Lane.
Subject—“A New Phase of Education in the Medford Schools.”
- March 26—Pilgrimage, Lynn, guests of Lynn Historical Society.
- April 25—Speaker, Chief of Police Daniel W. Connors.
Subject—“History of the Police Department in Medford.”
Speaker—Mr. Burton Irish.
Subject—“The Process and Significance of Constitutional Amendment.”
- April 30—Pilgrimage, Taunton. Meeting of the Bay State League.
- May 16—At The Old Blanchard House.
Speaker—Mr. Wilson Fiske.
Subject—“History of the Blanchard House.”
Speaker—Mrs. William Thompson.
Subject—“The Oldest House in Winchester.”
- June 17-18—Opening of Royall House, in costume of Washington's time. Bicentennial Celebration.
- June 25—Pilgrimage with Bay State League to Danvers.
- September 24—Pilgrimage to Carlisle, guests of Mr. Edward J. Gaffey.
- October 17—Speaker—Prof. R. J. Bartlett.
Subject—“The Constitution of the United States.”
- October 29—Pilgrimage, Canton. Meeting of the Bay State League.
- November 20—Pilgrimage to Reading, guests of the Reading Antiquarian Society.
- December 3—Joint Meeting with the Royall House Society.
Supper and Address by Mrs. C. P. U. Vosburgh.



THE
MEDFORD HISTORICAL
REGISTER

VOL. XXXVI, 1933



PUBLISHED BY THE
MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASS.

MEDFORD
J. C. MILLER, JR., PRINTER

CONTENTS.

No. 1.

	PAGE
THE ROYALL FAMILY	<i>Frontispiece</i>
PENELOPE NOW AND THEN. <i>Maud B. Vosburgh</i>	1
FAREWELL TO MEETING-HOUSE BROOK AND NANEPASHE- MIT'S HILL. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	12
THE SOCIETY'S BENEFACTOR PASSES. <i>Frank W. Lovering</i>	13
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF MOSES WHITCHER MANN	16
OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1933-1934	<i>Facing</i> 16

No. 2.

PRESENT MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN. <i>Frank W. Lovering</i>	17
NOTES BY THE WAY. <i>T. M. C.</i>	30
JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR. <i>Thomas M. Connell</i>	30
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR.	32
FIRST MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED	<i>Facing</i> 32

No. 3.

	PAGE
THE LAWRENCE FARM AND FARMHOUSE. <i>Mark E.</i> <i>Gallagher, Jr.</i>	33
THROUGH THE MIDDLESEX CANAL	42
NEW HAMPSHIRE SOLDIERS IN MEDFORD	45
OUR HOUSE MADE NEW	46
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF CATHERINE CAMPBELL GAFFEY	48

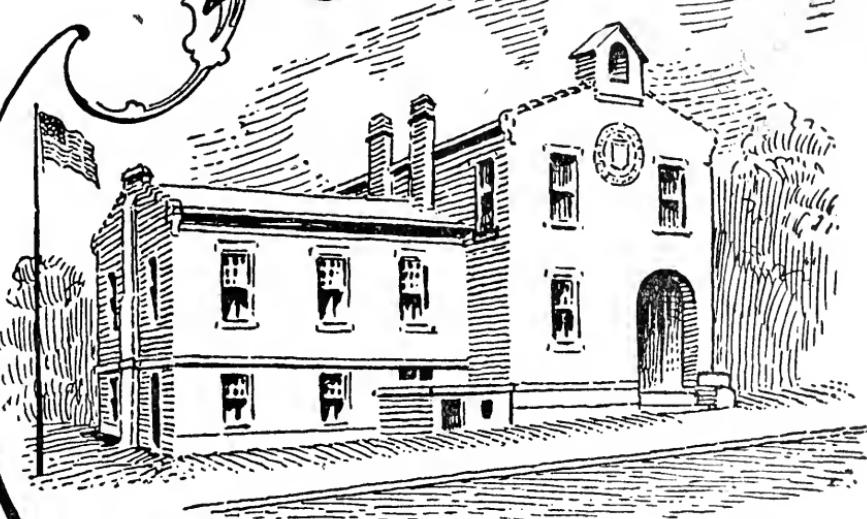
No. 4.

PRESIDENT WASHINGTON VISITS GENERAL BROOKS. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	49
MEDFORD'S HIDDEN BROOKS. <i>H. J. Nicholson</i>	60
SOCIETY'S PROGRAM FOR 1933	64

Vol. XXXVI.]

[No. 1.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



March, 1933

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

C O N T E N T S .

	PAGE
THE ROYALL FAMILY	<i>Frontispiece</i>
PENELOPE NOW AND THEN. <i>Maude B. Vosburgh</i>	1
FAREWELL TO MEETING-HOUSE BROOK AND NANEPASHEMIT'S HILL. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	12
THE SOCIETY'S BENEFACTOR PASSES. <i>Frank W. Lovering</i>	13
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF MOSES WHITCHER MANN	16
OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1933-1934 <i>Facing</i>	16

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

Harry E. Walker, Chairman.

Joseph C. Smith, Editor. Joseph C. Miller, Jr.

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager. Mrs. Lucy F. Smith.

Mrs. Ruth D. Coolidge. Burton W. Irish.

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

J. C. MILLER, JR., PRINTER, MEDFORD.



THE ROYALL FAMILY. Robert Feke.

Penelope Royall (Mrs. Henry Vassall), Mrs. Mary Palmer, and her sister Mrs. Isaac Royall, Jr., Isaac Royall, Jr., The child is probably Isaac's first daughter Elizabeth, who was fifteen months old when the picture was painted in 1741. She died three months before another Elizabeth was born, who became the second Lady Phipps. Mr. Alan Burroughs of the Fogg Art Museum X-rayed the painting in March, 1933. The plates indicate that the child was painted by an inferior artist before the work was completed. Reproduced through the courtesy of Mr. Edson Jones, Librarian of the Harvard Law School.

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVI.

MARCH, 1933.

No. 1.

PENELOPE NOW AND THEN.*

BY MAUDE B. VOSBURGH.

Written for the Medford Historical Society and the Royall House Association and read at their supper, Saturday, December 3, 1932.

THE scene is the reception room of the Vassall House, a dwelling begun in 1635, enlarged, altered, restored, during three centuries. A wide panelled arch frames the entrance to this room, met at right angles by a duplicate arch over the lovely staircase which Penelope Royall Vassall ascended as a bride of eighteen. Between the long windows that look down old Tory Row now stands a radio cabinet. Penelope Vosburgh faces the radio as she sits at the telephone table in the "clositt" connecting the reception room, formerly the "blue room," with the "keeping room." She is speaking through the telephone.

PENELOPE Now. Yes, yes, Information. Are you there? I want to get the Royall House in Medford. What? This is the Vassall House in Cambridge. Are you there? You say there is no connection with the Royall House? Thank you. (*She hangs up the receiver. Dreamily.*) But there should be, there must be a connection between our two houses!

VOICE FROM THE RADIO. What's this I hear about the Royalls and the Vassalls and their houses? By what right, prithee tell me, do you speak of them?

PENELOPE Now. Why, who are you?

PENELOPE THEN. Penelope.

P. Now. No, I'm Penelope.

P. THEN. You may be Penelope now, but I was Penelope then.

P. Now. Then! When?

P. THEN. When my father bought our Royall estate in December, 1732.

P. Now. This is December, 1932. Two hundred years ago!

P. THEN. Yes, this is my bi-centennial trip.

P. Now. Well, what a memory you have!

* Because the Royall House in Medford and the Vassall House at 94 Brattle Street, Cambridge, through the marriage of Penelope Royall and Henry Vassall, have been *in-laws* for nearly two hundred years, and because this year, through the marriage of my son Peter Vosburgh and Penelope Watkins of Montgomery, Alabama, several curious coincidences have stimulated my fancy, I venture to humanize some historical facts concerning both our houses in a dialogue between the two Penelopes.—MAUDE BATCHELDER VOSBURGH.

P. THEN. Yes, I'm perfectly clear on names and dates, but a little hazy on faces. My father Isaac—

P. NOW. My father's name was Isaac, too.

P. THEN. Imposter! What are you doing in my house?

P. Now. *Your* house! It's my husband's home. I married Peter Vosburgh in 1932.

P. THEN. I married Henry Vassall in 1742. My father had died, so my brother Isaac gave me in marriage.

P. Now. My father had died, so my brother Isaac gave me in marriage—

P. THEN. You mock me, Penelope Vosburgh. Treat your elders with more respect. Fare thee well.

P. Now. Don't go! don't go! Are you there, Penelope Vassall?

P. THEN. I'll tarry awhile, but do not mimic me again.

P. Now. Do let's try to understand each other. My father had two children, my brother Isaac and me, Penelope.

P. THEN. My father had two children, my brother Isaac and me, Penelope.

P. Now. Now who's the mimic? Listen. My husband's great grandfather, Samuel Batchelder, bought the old Vassall estate in 1841.

P. THEN. My husband, Henry Vassall, bought the Vassall estate in 1741.

P. Now. Believe it or not, one hundred years before. We seem to be traveling in cycles.

P. THEN. In the name of wonder—

P. Now. Perhaps we have more in common than a few names and dates. Your name Royall is too grand for most people. It's a kingly name.

P. THEN. Indeed it was rather a comedown to be a Vassal after being Royal. My great grandfather was William Royall, only they called it Ryall. He came from the Isle of Wight in 1629. William, the "King's Forrester, a Cleaver of Tymber,"* He cleared the land in Salem, opposite Governor Endicott's, for the coming settlers, "Rial's Side."

P. Now. Probably he cleared the land for an ancestor of my husband, for Peter is the ninth generation from John Batchelder, who was given a grant of twenty acres at Ryalside in 1639. He lived and died there and passed it on to his sons. Do you suppose they were neighbors?

P. THEN. Nay, my ancestor left Salem for Casco Bay in the Province of Maine.

P. Now. We always say State of Maine.

P. THEN. I'm too old to be corrected. Farewell.

P. Now. Please stay. Forgive me.

P. THEN. No apologies, but a little more civility.

* "Ryal Side." Calvin P. Pierce. Beverly Historical Society. 1931.

P. Now. Won't you tell me about your life, Madam Vassall?

P. THEN. Where shall I begin?

P. Now. At the very beginning. For instance, I, Penelope, was born "way down south in de land ob cotton"— (*Silence.*) Well?

P. THEN. A bad jest, child, to dub me a West Indian. I was not ashamed to be born way down south in the land of cotton, in Antigua.

P. Now. Really, Madam Vassall? I was born in Alabama. Please tell me about Antigua.

P. THEN. The best of cotton was raised on our island, and we also exported ginger and brown Muscovado sugar—hogsheads of sugar—we sent 'em all to New England, and puncheons of rum, much rum; but often we gave the preference to sending molasses, for Medford had its own distillery even before I was born. Our barrels were made by local coopers out of staves from New England and hoops from Old England. New England also sent clapboards to the Caribbees, and of course codfish and mackerel. We used wooden shingles from the northern provinces, too, in place of tiles on our roofs, which filled our English visitors at the Popeshead plantation with alarm for fear of fire. They were a menace, dry as tinder under our hot and rainless sky.

P. Now. It has taken two hundred years to make us realize the fire hazard to our thickly settled towns and to substitute asphalt and asbestos.

P. THEN. Pray try to talk intelligibly, Mrs. Vosburgh. My father carried on a large trade but he never mentioned those articles. Our port of St. John's was the only proper harbor in the English group and we had everything.

P. Now. Even—rum-runners?

P. THEN. Rum was easier to get than water. Too hot for everyday use. Beer was the people's drink.

P. Now. Our legislators are talking about beer now.

P. THEN. Madeira was my father's choice. Also the so-called London claret, in high fashion, both often brought in from near-by Dutch or French islands under cover of darkness.

P. Now. Claret-chasing instead of rum-running.

P. THEN. I was thirteen when I left St. John's. I remember the spacious streets. The prickly pear bush and other shrubs were suffered to grow therein, nests for vermin and reptiles. So filthy were they that Medford seemed a neat, pretty place. The houses were infected by mosquitoes, scorpions and centipedes.

P. Now. I prefer Cambridge.

P. THEN. So say I, madam. But we children found the harmless cockroaches entertaining. They were exceedingly friendly, for with the approach of evening they ran into our houses, sat in our laps, and went to bed with us.

P. Now. How could you sleep?

P. *THEN.* A tired child sleeps anywhere, but a tired woman —. When I returned to the plantation in middle life, after my escape from the terror of the Revolution, my nerves were poisoned by my fears. From sunset to sunrise the air was hideous with the squeaks and squawks of crickets and lizards. I tossed and turned all night in an agony of mind, tortured by memories of unpaid debts. I longed to hear the song of the robin at dawn in our Cambridge garden. But no singing birds make the air melodious in Antigua. At early morn a slave brought me a cup of steaming hot coffee as did my negro woman, Cuba, in Medford. Then I would get a few hours of repose. But as a child I did not battle with insects nor with terrors. I laughed to see the slaves painstakingly rubbing the cotton cords with our native castor oil so the ants would not run down them to the food suspended from the rafters.

P. *Now.* Why didn't you keep your food in the ice chest?

P. *Then.* Ice! In the West Indies! You must be crazed.

P. *Now.* Now you could have a fresh mackerel frosted in Gloucester and thawed out as good as new in Antigua. What did you have to eat?

P. *Then.* Delicious oranges, better than Spanish, so cheap we bought 'em for dogs. We could buy a bushel of pineapples for a couple of shillings. And pomegranates, guava, cocoanut, bananas, lemons — those fruits we shipped north to adorn our tables. But not the elegant avocado pear. That can be tasted only within the tropics because of its perishable quality.

P. *Now.* I bought one yesterday for a salad.

P. *Then.* I fancy you are mistaken, madam. At all events, you've never eaten oysters which grew upon trees.*

P. *Now.* Have you?

P. *Then.* I assure you this is no fisherman's yarn. At our Popeshead plantation we used to regale our company with these small oysters. Near the sea, in swampy places, grew many mangrove bushes with their branches under water, to which adhered the oysters so fast that we often plucked bark with their shells. There's about 'em a flavor which gave to porter a superior zest. Green turtle soup was also much liked, dressed without the addition of beef and veal as in the tavern mode in London. Poor Harry, he did so admire the turtle feasts at the Fresh pond in Cambridge! Often several ladies and gentlemen of our acquaintance would spend the day there together, dine, fish, and amuse ourselves till evening. Then we returned home late, a lady and gentleman in each chaise.

P. *Now.* Fresh pond is still popular for petting parties, I've heard.

P. *Then.* You seldom go so far?

P. *Now.* Too near. Peter and I sometimes motor down to some North Shore place after business hours to dine and dance, or have an afternoon sail at Marblehead.

* John Luffman's "Letters from Antigua." London, 1789.

P. THEN. Marblehead? That name awakens memories of the much-maligned Agnes Surriage, a lovely person, and forgiven her beauty and low birth and the love of Sir Harry Frankland by the beau-monde of Europe after she became Lady Frankland. She held us in affection, and came to my husband's funeral in a very cold March blow.* His tomb had been constructed beneath Christ Church, which he helped build by his subscriptions and influence. Also the King's Chapel in Boston. He bought a pew in each. Indeed, we supported the establishments of church and state and maintained the honor of the family. We kept our chariot, and when we got our new-fangled fire engine it was the talk of the town.

P. Now. We were married in Christ Church.

P. THEN. Ah! that makes you seem one of us. A chapel in very fine taste, my dear girl. Let me see. What were we saying? About your excursions.

P. Now. Well, now we can slip over the road to Newport and back in a day. Last year I saw Peter off on the race across the Atlantic under sail, eight men on a forty-eight-foot sloop, twenty days from Newport to Plymouth, England.

P. THEN. Bless me! it was a very good voyage of five or six weeks for a large vessel to cross, in my time.

P. Now. This past summer we took a sailing party to see the total eclipse of the sun at York.

P. THEN. York? County of York? I had a niece, Elizabeth Royall, Isaac's daughter, married there. I daresay you've heard of her—Lady Pepperell.

P. Now. Oh, yes! I've bought her sheets and pillowcases.

P. THEN. You distress me. You imply her things were sold at a vendue. Lady Pepperell made a most brilliant match.

P. Now. The name of Pepperell is now the trademark of fine cottons.

P. THEN. Fancy her earthly grandeur dwindled to a sheet! Her brief candle of existence was set at the peak of the social scale but sadly was it snuffed out. When she married the grandson of the powerful Sir William Pepperell, conqueror of Louisburg, he was plain Mr. Sparhawk, but the signature on Sir William's will changed him into a baronet. Besides Sir William's name and title, he inherited his set of plate received from the great admiral, Sir Peter Warren, all the portraits in his house in Kittery, his sword and gold watch, and all his estate in Saco and Scarborough. People called me an heiress and Henry was rated as rich, but our youthful niece and nephew, by the stroke of a pen, became vast landed proprietors. It was old Sir William's proud boast that he could travel thirty miles along the seaboard from the Piscataqua river to the Saco river on his own soil. In Saco he owned over five thousand acres. But, again by a stroke of a pen, the

*John Rowe's "Diary," Entry in 1769.

young Sir William became a poor man. The Confiscation Act wiped out a fortune it had taken a century to build. But the young wife was spared those regrets.

P. Now. How come?

P. THEN. Like all of us devoted to His Majesty's cause, like my daughter Betsy Russell and her family, and my brother, and Henry's cousin Florentius, the baronet and his lady sailed away from the dreadful prospect of fire and sword in 1775, but she died at sea on the voyage to England. A most amiable lady.

P. Now. Hard on her husband.

P. THEN. "I never met a man of a fairer mind or possessed of a more benevolent heart, always benefiting his impoverished countrymen in exile."* All the Massachusetts Tories, and many from the West Indies, too, seemed to be transplanted to London. St. James's park wore an appearance not unlike the Exchange in Boston. My nephew could still entertain with some show of ostentation, for his plate had been shipped after him. It had been taken from Kittery by Colonel Moulton of York and six soldiers, who guarded its conveyance to Boston. But all the land was gone.

P. Now. Five thousand acres isn't very large for the United States. A friend of ours owns a million acres of timberland down in Maine.

P. THEN. Can there be so much land in all the province! The earth must be getting larger.

P. Now. We say it's getting smaller, because of radio and airplanes. We live at such a speed—

P. THEN. Where I am, space and time are not. A few centuries more or less—

P. Now. I suppose the first hundred years are the hardest. But go on about the Pepperells.

P. THEN. The young baronet had traveled in the trackless woods of his inheritance, but not his lady.

P. Now. Girls now go out camping in those woods, paddling their own canoe. We're pretty good scouts.

P. THEN. A lady of resolution can endure hardship.

P. Now. We have a new name for it. We call it sport. But please go on.

P. THEN. The old Sir William was lieutenant-general and commander of all the forces by land and sea on the Louisburg expedition. Perhaps I said that before. I'm apt to repeat at my age. He was one of the supporters of Governor Jonathan Belcher of Massachusetts.

P. Now. Why, Madam Vassall, he lived in our house!

* Estimate of young Sir William by Ann Hulton's brother. "Letters of a Loyalist Lady." (Ann Hulton. 1767-1776). Harvard University Press.

P. THEN. Yes, Mrs. Vosburgh, he spent his childhood and youth there and inherited it from his father and sold it a score of years before Henry bought it. Whilst he was governor of Massachusetts he had trouble about the increase of paper money.

P. Now. Congress has recently been discussing that subject.

P. THEN. The opposition petitioned the Crown for Jonathan Belcher's removal and he was recalled to England without trial or investigation. That was when his old friend Pepperell exerted his influence in his favor, which resulted in his appointment as governor of New Jersey. After his earthly career was over his body came back to rest in Christ Church Burying-ground, in a tomb with his beloved cousin, Judge Remington. Jonathan Remington also lived in our house, and the two Jonathans, devoted in life, chose to be united in death.

P. Now. That was touching. All your boy friends seem to have been governors or generals.

P. THEN. Governors a-plenty in Tory Row. Harry bought our house from his brother John, whose father-in-law was Lieutenant-Governor Phips. He left a fortune to his grandson, John, Jr., who was born in our house, and who built a new house across the way for his bride.

P. Now. That's the Longfellow House.

P. THEN. John's sister Elizabeth, who was also born in our house, married Thomas Oliver. There's another governor for you. He built a large square mansion for her, at the western end of Tory Row on our part of the Watertown road.

P. Now. The Lowell House.

P. THEN. A mob several thousand strong surrounded his house and forced his resignation from the council. As for generals, my brother Isaac was the first American brigadier-general.* Twenty-three consecutive years as a councillor of the province, exceedingly popular, he entertained very genteelly. Plenty of wine and cards and music in our polite circle. Not the sedate, rational kind of folks who go to bed at ten o'clock. And some gaming.

P. Now. Gaming?

P. THEN. Playing cards for stakes. Everyone gambled, from White's in London to the assemblies in Jamaica, where Harry came from. Harry went to a soirée there where a friend gambled away all the money in his pockets and then staked his carriage and horses standing before the door of his host. These too he lost, and was forced to go home afoot. Sad wretch.

P. Now. Plenty of money in their pockets and no motors nor movies nor football. Our amusements might shock them.

* "The New England Royals." *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. 39.

P. THEN. Henry and I avoided politics and did not take sides as a rule. We were liable to lose our West Indian estates and put ourselves out of the king's protection.

P. Now. You played safe.

P. THEN. No one was safe. When the tea was thrown overboard—I hardly dare speak of it even now—"all the malice that earth and Hell could raise was pointed against the Tories."** To be sure, before our own fireside, Harry and his company would sit for hours talking about fundamental problems while Betsy and I yawned our heads off.

P. Now. Cambridge still talks about fundamental problems, though now the women are wideawake and send questionnaires to the men.

P. THEN. Governor Shirley succeeded Belcher. There's another governor for you. On the last stage of his journey to Boston to represent His Majesty's government he lodged the night in my house—pardon, *our* house. "A number of gentlemen waited upon him from whom he received the compliments of congratulation."† Is the portrait of Mr. Shirley, his wig powdered to the life, still hanging in the keeping-room?

P. Now. I wish it were.

P. THEN. I adored pictures. We had eighty-four, great and small, some of glass, on the staircase and entry. My mother used to say to me, "Penne,"‡ said she, "Penne, how do you ever keep so many straight?"

P. Now. I've seen your Royall family group § by the artist Feke, all you good-looking young people in a row. Lots of style. Wish I'd known you.

P. THEN. You win my heart, Penelope Vosburgh. We sat for it just before my marriage, in our smartest clothes. Those were happy days.

P. Now. It's hanging in the Harvard Law School, very nicely taken care of.

P. THEN. And with sufficient obligation.

P. Now. What do you mean?

P. THEN. Isaac left the college two thousand acres in Worcester County to found a professorship of law or medicine. They chose law.

P. Now. Of course, the Royall Professorship of Law, first in the country, held for years by a charming man; you'd like him.

P. THEN. I didn't like Isaac's will in which he cut me off without a shilling. Tit-for-tat, my mother served him the same way; left her fortune to the girls, her granddaughters, the three Elizabeths, all named for her by their respective parents, all expecting to get a generous slice. If I lived

* Ann Hulton's words.

† *Boston Newsletter*, August 12, 1756.

‡ *Penne*, so her mother called her. *Early Court Files*. Boston.

§ Given to Harvard University in 1879 by Dr. George S. Jones of Boston.

long enough I came in for a share. Isaac was greatly ruffled and tried to get Harry to break the will, but Harry wouldn't put his name to the appeal to the governor and council. Alas! poor Isaac died of smallpox, and I lived long enough to forgive him.

P. Now. Do you mean to say your mother's name was Elizabeth?

P. THEN. I do, really.

P. Now. Curious. My mother's name is Elizabeth, too.

P. THEN. There is a kinship of circumstance as well as a kinship of blood.

P. Now. It's a strange chain of coincidences. But what were we talking about? Portraits?

P. THEN. Let me see. Harry and I had our portraits done after our marriage. We hung them in the best room* beneath the marble chamber. Who knows or cares where they are now?

P. Now. Why, my dear Penelope, they are preserved in the treasure room of Widener Library.† Do you wish they were back again in the best room where they would be loved, not merely preserved?

P. THEN. Yes, I wanted people to love me. When I sat for the portrait Harry pinned a rose in my hair from the long walk which led to the Charles river. But where are the roses of yesterday?

P. Now. Still in the picture, Penne dear. I hope you remember the quaint little cobblestones of the walks. We put them as borders around our flowerbeds. We were delighted to turn them up when we made our tercentenary garden.

P. THEN. Both houses had broad walks to the east bordered with aromatic box; both had courtyards to the west paved with smooth beach stones. When Harry Vassall came a-wooing, how the horses clattered up to the door with Tony waving his whip! While Harry and I loitered up the terraces, his Tony sought out my Cuba in the slave-quarters. Like master, like man. Both courtships ended in marriage. Harry and I took shelter from prying eyes behind the fluted pilasters of the summerhouse. There we pledged our vows; there love made our hearts expand towards heaven; there hope stretched its pinions like the flying Mercury on the bell-shaped roof above us, with only one foot on the earth. Ah me, the heart of a girl of eighteen! Years afterward, escaped from the scenes of violence and anarchy in Boston, a widow in my despoiled plantation, often I thought of the ease and plenty of those hours. The slaves, too, were happy and faithful. We avoided one inconvenience of northern families, the want of good servants, as "no native of Boston would call another master because of his Independancy." Our

*Inventory of Henry Vassall's estate, 1749. The author surmises that the marble chamber in each house had the walls covered with oblong sheets of marbleized paper imported from England or France. In France these early makers of domino papers were called *dominotiers*, and those who specialized in the marble finish were *marbreurs*.

†Under the trusteeship of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

negroes, on cold nights, sat around the great logs in their fireplace and sang and played their native African melodies on their native instruments: the banjar, strung over a hollow calabash; the toombah with its tinkling shells: a strange, sobbing rhythm, something wild in the beat, that betrayed you into a desire to dance and dance.

P. Now. Absolutely. That's our modern jazz.

P. THEN. Sometimes Isaac would invite Henry to lie in the marble chamber overnight. We'd spend the evening making plans for the future, sitting on a window-seat perfectly designed for two lovers. Isaac topped those window-seats with fine mahogany boards; Harry's were but pine, though his father, Colonel Leonard Vassall, in Quincy, had a whole room wainscoted from floor to ceiling in mahogany brought from his own plantations. That house resembles ours, Penelope, with its gambrel roofs.

P. Now. That must be the presidents' house, where the two Adamses lived. So Henry's father built that house. Isn't that interesting?

P. THEN. We thought it very agreeable, nothing remarkable.

P. Now. Please tell me, Penelope Vassall, was there ever a secret underground passage between our house and your nephew's across Brattle street? The story goes that the Vassalls constructed it so they could communicate without being seen by the patriots. Your nephew and his family did have to flee from a roaring mob. The tradition persisted for a century. Peter's grandfather and Longfellow's children searched for it, and last winter Peter and Longfellow's grandson hunted through the cellars of both houses. Peter even took a crowbar and cut through the masonry of the outer wall of our house at the foot of the stairs from the closet above, which was entered by a sliding panel.

P. THEN. You say it was a secret of the Vassalls?

P. Now. Yes.

P. THEN. Can you keep a secret?

P. Now. O yes, yes!

P. THEN. What did he find?

P. Now. Nothing. But perhaps in some other place—

P. THEN. What a ferment about nothing! Now have you seen the magnificent Vassall monument in the King's Chapel in Boston to commemorate the accomplishments of Henry's great-grandfather Samuel? Henry's own cousin from Jamaica, Florentius, erected it. Between you and me, he did well to take pride in his great-grandsire, for he couldn't boast much about his granddaughter, another Elizabeth Vassall,* so gossips from London told me. But 'tis indiscreet to rake up this old scandal.

* Her first husband was Sir Godfrey Webster of Battle Abbey, Sussex. Divorced in 1797 and married H. R. Fox, third Baron Holland, who later signed himself Vassall Holland.

P. Now. Oh! please do tell me, Penelope, Penne dear, else I'll have to look her up in the encyclopedia.

P. THEN. The what? What is she in? She was in Holland House before I died, admired by the great world in spite of her romance in Italy. Lady Holland's salon was frequented by people of the highest quality. Her first husband received action for damages. Six thousand pounds and a decree of divorce suited him better than a brilliant wife.

P. Now. We would say she got away with it. But *you* had a lot of trouble in later life.

P. THEN. Yes. My husband left me only debts and mortgages. Was all the luxury and prodigality of my wifehood atoned for by the thirty years' poverty and distress of my widowhood—is that what you would ask?

P. Now. If it isn't too rude.

P. THEN. We took it in good grace. I lived in obscurity in Boston, but my daughter and grandchildren were with me. I had a small income from Antigua, enough to live in a simple way. I saw the stars and stripes float over a growing nation, and the beginning of a new century.

P. Now. That was good.

P. THEN. But when I first returned to Cambridge after the Revolution the town was desolate. All my gay friends had flown. The medical headquarters of the Continental Army had been established in our house, perhaps because I was forced to leave behind me our large medicine chest. It had been used as a military prison for some of Burgoyne's officers and it was in a dilapidated condition. My claim on it was wasted breath. You see, after the war—

P. Now. I understand, Penelope, we've had a war, too. Big, strong men come today to the door of Vassall House to sell a few needles or safety-pins. They say, "I haven't had work for over a year and I'm trying to make a little money to give my children food." It's awfully hard to shake your head and shut the door. This depression is frightful.

P. THEN. The past scenes of depression and confusion seem like a masquerade, and I, Penne, like a puppet. (*The voice recedes.*) In the bliss of futurity—

P. Now. You're fading out, Penelope Vassall. Are you there?

P. THEN. (*Clearly.*) Yes, Penelope Vosburgh, but you seem faint and far away. Live, my love, live triumphantly. May you long enjoy the present scene and an increasing felicity. May you at some distant period— (*The voice trailed off into silence.*)

P. Now. Are you there, Penelope Vassall, oh, are you there?

FAREWELL TO MEETING-HOUSE BROOK AND NANEPASHEMIT'S HILL.

BY RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.

Perhaps it was a part of the general gloom of 1932 that two of Medford's oldest landmarks should suffer depression beneath the leveling hand of progress. Real-estate development, proceeding even in the darkest days of unemployment, laid Meeting-house brook, the center of old Medford, in a culvert, and buried it ignominiously beneath a road which sweeps up the valley once deep in spring with buttercups and daisies.

No more will the willows lean over the rippling floods of early spring, where the alewives once flashed in silver upstream. Meeting-house brook, beside which our fore-fathers placed their second church and their first schoolhouse — sites both carefully marked by the Historical Society — will no longer endanger the buildings of the city as it used to wash the foundations of the meeting-house.

The brook, for many years much shrunken, is now invisible except in the Fells, where it runs through the valley by the site of the old mill, and below High street, where it creeps to the river, shorn of its ancient glory.

Another land development has gnawed at the granite hilltop where stood the wigwam of Nanepashemit. A road girdles the hill and several new houses, with their sunparlors and garages, stare over the river valley which Nanepashemit's eyes swept for the war canoes of his enemies.

The giant oak, which must have been a sturdy young sapling when Nanepashemit stepped from his wigwam, has been laid low. Even the shipbuilders, in their search for suitable oak, had spared that ancient tree. It had caught root beneath a little shelf of rock and its great branches had spread in a shining circle of foliage. In its place stands a small white house.

Progress must not meet with false sentimentality, but sometimes we wonder whether it may become the duty

of the Historical Society to clutch fast to the Mystic river lest it become a subterranean sewer, or lest Pasture hill and Rock hill be swept into its valley and the beautiful city of Medford become a barren plain.

THE SOCIETY'S BENEFACTOR PASSES.

Two important organizations in the life of Medford—one civic, the other religious, the last much older than the first—have every reason to look back across the years with a pleasure bred of justifiable pride in the long life and good works of Moses Whitcher Mann.

Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church of West Medford was born in his home at 83 Sharon street as a religious entity, and the present home (1933) of the Medford Historical Society at 10 Governors avenue, near the center of the city, was born in his brain.

Mr. Mann came to Medford from Woburn in 1871, and the formation of a worshipful congregation of nine men and women in those contemporary days led to the purchase of a lot at Holton and Bower streets, whereon shortly, with his own plans, and, with minor help, by his own hands, Trinity Methodist Chapel was erected at a cost of \$9,000.00.*

Mr. Mann's efforts in behalf of the church were only slightly recognized outside the environs of the parish—that is, Trinity Methodist people knew the builder's name almost as a by-word, yet the city knew him because of his long connection with the Medford Historical Society. And the Society, typifying a cross-section of the city, knew him because of his intense love for things historical that had to do most especially with Medford. They remarked that tireless mainspring within him which, through

* This chapel was removed when the late Frank W. Ham, an early West Medford builder, was commissioned by the Trinity Society to erect the present edifice, and the story-and-a-half gabled and slated roof structure, raised on a brick underpinning and its side walls carried out ten feet either way, became Holton Hall, now known as Community Hall, at the rear of the Sagamore Masonic Apartments, 22 Harvard Avenue, West Medford.

searching all his life the truths of the Scripture, made him jealous to seek the utmost in truth he could distil from time-worn documents having to do with local history.

For many years president of the Historical Society, and while yet active as a carpenter and builder in West Medford, Mr. Mann's journeyings into the records of the past became an obsession rather than an avocation. He went so far afield to pin down facts and determine isolated dates that sometimes the results seemed to many people not as useful as they believed more picturesque and less "dry" material would be.

In the years when the now-vanished Lydia Maria Child house at Ashland and Salem streets was the Society's shelter—it had occupied the colonial dwelling almost from organization—Mr. Mann dreamed of a new and permanent home. The Child place was sadly run down, and January, 1915, the Society had a deficit of around \$116.00. Repairs had been made, but no more money was available, and the organization had voted to sell.

First as tenant, later as proprietor (see Mr. Mann's two-page article in the *REGISTER*, Vol. XXII, No. 4) the courageous men and women found a problem growing. The sum of \$1,000.00 had been paid down, and there was a mortgage of \$3,000.00. The World War was in embryo, significant and ominous clouds were moving across the face of things in the United States. However, the Child house being sold, the buyer assumed the mortgage, and the Society received \$1,500.00 for its equity.

Various troubles arose, but Mr. Mann's clear vision pointed a way, and in June, 1916, it was determined to acquire a site and erect a permanent home. The sole restriction was that \$1,000.00 must be pledged before work began. This was accomplished after months of delay, but the Society moved in in January, 1917, though the building was but partly completed.

A lawsuit threatened from one of the creditors, but a composition was made, and, to quote Mr. Mann, the home stands "with no encumbrance of debt, through the kind

forbearance of creditors for two years, and their generous assistance at the last."

Mr. Mann's efforts for the Society are almost dramatically summarized in a letter received since his death by his daughter, Mrs. Mabel W. Meloon of Medford Hillside, from George H. Remele, a former member of the organization and long-time resident of West Medford, and who now lives in California. He wrote in substance that to him Mr. Mann's work ran strongly parallel with the Biblical story of Moses leading the children of Israel out of the wilderness.

Space does not permit more detail about this early struggle of the Medford Historical Society through which Mr. Mann pioneered, nor of his life in the western section of his adopted city, when carpenters were paid *fifteen cents an hour* for a *ten-hour day* and *walked* both ways to work in the further precincts of Belmont. It was of this stuff the early New Englanders were made.

Mr. Mann was born in Newbury, Vt., and died at the age of eighty-seven at the home of his son, David W. Mann, in Weston, Massachusetts, March 10, 1933. The son of James Austin and Hannah Whitcher Mann, he married Elizabeth J. C. Holton of Winchester, a cousin of Dwight L. Moody, the evangelist, June 30, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Mann removed to West Medford and built what is now the Louis G. Bragdon residence at 83 Sharon street. They saw a little colony of the early West Medford settlers put up their homes, largely east of Harvard avenue a block south along Jerome street—Jerome street, whose vista across a rude wooden carriage bridge spanning a quick elbow of the then tidal Mystic river, ended with the old French-roofed brick "Pumping Station" that still stands as a monument to the days when Upper Mystic lake supplied the original town of Charlestown with water by way of the Tufts College reservoir.

Today the building, a Metropolitan District Commission repair shop, faces Mystic Valley parkway and sits dreaming, one may fancy, of the days that are past.

Mr. Mann's wife died in November, 1931, soon after their sixtieth wedding anniversary. They had two sons, three daughters, thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held from Trinity Church Sunday, March 12, 1933, with the Rev. Maurice L. Bullock, an earlier pastor, and the Rev. Ambler Garnett in charge. There was a large attendance of old friends from Medford and other places, and a delegation from the Historical Society. Interment was at Oak Grove Cemetery.

— FRANK W. LOVERING.

RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF MOSES WHITCHER MANN.

Whereas by the death of Moses Whitcher Mann the Medford Historical Society has lost an outstanding member, in whose memory the history of the city lived again, *Be it resolved* that the said Society make public record of the gratitude it owes to the memory of Mr. Mann for his devotion to the interests of the Society; for his accurate and thorough searchings of the records of Medford; for his long editorship of the MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER and his articles therein, scholarly and exact, yet touched with human interest; for his faithfulness as president of the organization; and finally for his persistence and vision in obtaining the site and erecting the building which serves as the present headquarters of the Society. To no one man in all the history of the organization does its membership owe a deeper and more varied debt of appreciation.

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution, passed by a vote of the Society, be spread upon the records, and copies thereof be sent to his children.

RUTH D. COOLIDGE, President.

WILL C. EDDY, Ex-President.

EDWARD J. GAFFEY, Ex-President.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Officers for the Year 1933 1934.

President.

MRS. RUTH DAME COOLIDGE,

Telephone, Mystic 0030,

Residence, 7 Hastings Lane,

Vice-Presidents.

HARRY E. WALKER,

CHARLES H. PHINNEY,

RICHARD B. COOLIDGE,
EDWIN B. ROLLINS.

Corresponding Secretary.

THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street,

Recording Secretary.

MRS. IONE T. SYLVIA, 32 Gleason Street,

Treasurer.

HERBERT M. MARVEL, 2 Locke Road,

Directors.

MRS. MARJORIE L. NICHOLS.

EDWARD J. GAFFEY,

MRS. EMMA M. GRAY.

CHARLES T. DALY,

Librarian and Curator.

MRS. EMMA M. GRAY,

MRS. CAROLINE E. ROBINSON, Assistant,

Committees.

House.

EDWARD J. GAFFEY, Chairman,

MRS. EMMA M. GRAY,

E. EARL BLAKELY,

Program.

MRS. RUTH D. COOLIDGE, Chairman,

THOMAS M. CONNELL,

Hospitality.

MRS. MABEL K. ROLLINS, Chairman,

MISS DOROTHY W. BIRD,

MRS. ELIZABETH V. MCGRAY,

MRS. HELEN L. CHIPMAN,

MRS. MARJORIE L. NICHOLS,

MRS. MARGARET GAFFEY,

MISS LAURA P. PATTEN,

MRS. ELLEN R. HAYES,

MRS. HILDA L. PHINNEY,

MRS. WILHELMINA HUTCHINS,

MISS CLARICE RICHARDSON,

MRS. RUTH LINDQUIST,

MRS. GRACE A. STONE,

MRS. HELEN G. MARVEL.

MISS KATHARINE H. STONE,

Membership.

MRS. HELEN L. CHIPMAN,

MRS. EMMA M. GRAY,

MRS. RUTH D. COOLIDGE,

MRS. MARJORIE L. NICHOLS,

MRS. LUCY E. SMITH,

Publication Committee.

HARRY E. WALKER, Chairman,

JOSEPH C. SMITH, Editor

JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR.

THOMAS M. CONNELL, Business Manager

MRS. LUCY E. SMITH,

MRS. RUTH D. COOLIDGE,

BURTON W. IRISH,

Genealogy.

RALPH E. PEAK,

MRS. CLARA W. JACKSON,

Established 1894

Telephone Connection

Incorporated 1913

BOLTON & HICKS CO.

RECEIVERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Poultry, Butter and Eggs

88-92 SOUTH MARKET STREET

BOSTON, MASS.

Compliments of
A FRIEND

PRINTING

of the

BETTER SORT

**is delivered from the
office of**

J. C. MILLER, JR.

7 LAURIAT PLACE
off Cross Street

MEDFORD, MASS.

When Ordering Coal Insist On
Cross Creek Coal
"Our Leader"

It is an "All-American" Product
Look for the Stamp
It is your Protection
There is a pleasing difference
No Slate No Stone
N. Chi. Ins.

Our "Silver Flow" Range Oil is meeting with
public approval.



WALKER COAL & FUEL CO.

WAKER CORP

Medford

Maine 1122



Vol. XXXVI.]

[No. 2.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



June, 1933

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PRESENT MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN. <i>Frank W. Lovering</i>	17
NOTES BY THE WAY. <i>T.M.C.</i>	30
JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR. <i>Thomas M. Connell</i>	30
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR.	32
FIRST MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED	<i>Facing</i> 32

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

Harry E. Walker, Chairman.

Joseph C. Smith, Editor. Mrs. Ruth D. Coolidge.

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager. Mrs. Lucy F. Smith.

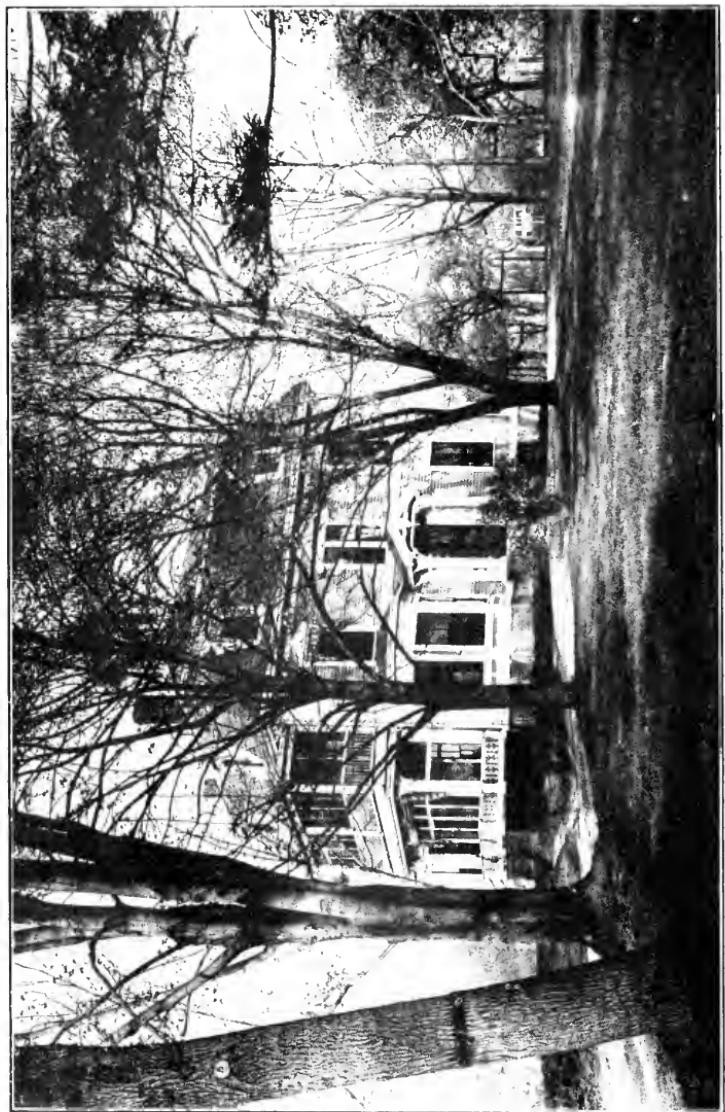
Burton W. Irish.

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____



PRESENT MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED.

The Old Puffer Estate, Wimdrop Square.

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVI.

JUNE, 1933.

No. 2.

THE MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN.

BY FRANK W. LOVERING.

IT IS with no little trepidation that the writer, seeking to comply with a suggestion of friends of the Medford Home for Aged Men and Women that there should be recorded in the REGISTER of the Medford Historical Society, and for posterity, the thirty-one years' existence of so worthy and notable a local charitable organization, is compelled to essay the work without the first secretarial records. These were lost, but fortunately copies of some of the invaluable transcripts the book contained have been preserved and are incorporated here.

History in the making is not unlike the arithmetical process of casting up each business morning a new total to a running account—the addition of an item day by day. To set down within parentheses even one chapter, and that “to be continued,” of a community’s flowing life; to try and glimpse, and that but dimly, a single section of the pageantry of the past from out the panorama winding swiftly on the spindle of the years, demands a deftness which the writer fears has not been granted him.

One must trace with time’s illuminating finger through the records of loyal secretaries, through legal documents, personal memoranda, newspaper files, scrapbooks wrinkling with carefully pasted clippings—some duplicated, many undated—and pause now and then to turn the elusive pages of tradition.

Thus piece by piece these arduous sources weave the vital story; and the facts, stripped of needless detail and marshalled with care, come finally to draft a chart for the guidance of those who take the helm of an organization in after years—a chart made simpler by the experiences of the pilots of the past.

This work the writer has whole-heartedly undertaken, and in it he has had the unceasing and always cheerful

18 *MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN.* [June,
assistance of every person interested in the Home from
whom information has been sought.

As a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Home became a legal entity in November, 1901; but the house which first it occupied was not opened to the members of the "family" till February, 1902.

The desirability of such an institution — institution in name only, for its conduct has been always that of one large family — had been, long before the Home became an actuality, earnestly advocated by Miss Alice C. Ayres, who lived at 119 High street. She had an inherent love for the work and was not without experience; she had been for some years president of the Gwynne Temporary Home on Worcester street in Boston.

One of her dearest friends was Miss Helen Porter, an aunt of Edward T. Bigelow. Miss Porter lived in the Bigelow mansion that stood on the site of the present Vocational Building of the Medford High School group between Forest street and Bradlee road.

Miss Ayres and Miss Porter long discussed an organization that should be supported by the people of Medford for such residents of the community, both men and women, as had gone over the hill into the sunset and, being without means but of acceptable character, should make up the "family" of a Medford Home for Aged Men and Women.

Miss Porter was disposed to aid the enterprise, but her name appears nowhere in its beginnings, although today some people incorrectly say the Home was started with \$10,000.00 bequeathed the corporation in the Helen Porter will.

She bequeathed that sum to three trustees and their heirs, who were instructed "to hold, manage and keep same invested," and "to use and expend annually in rendering aid and assistance to such aged people, or such children, either or both, as may be in need of assistance and residing in said Medford"

If at any time the trustees "should cause to be organized or should become connected with a corporation to aid aged, indigent people, and poor and needy children," the trustees were directed "to pay over the principal trust fund to such corporation," with the proviso that the corporation was "to designate always the persons to receive such aid."

The will got into the courts and the result was that the Medford Home for Aged Men and Women eventually received, and is receiving the income from about \$6,300.00, the remainder of the original \$10,000.00.

The first movement toward forming a corporation was carried out mostly by persons prominent in different church organizations in Medford, and by a few philanthropic members of no particular religious bodies.

Nineteen women and one man were the incorporators. These twenty met at the residence of Miss Ayres November 11, 1901, when there was drawn up and duly signed the following document: —

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do by this Agreement associate ourselves with the intention to constitute a Corporation according to provisions of the 115th Chapter of Public Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and acts in amendment thereof and addition thereto.

The name by which the Corporation shall be known is THE MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN.

The Corporation is constituted for the purpose of acquiring, supporting and sustaining a home for aged men and women in Medford.

The place within which the Corporation is established or located is in the city of Medford within said Commonwealth.

(Signers):

Alice C. Ayres,	Emmie N. Cleaves,	Louise G. DeLong,
Ruth Gibson,	M. Susan Goodale,	Gertrude W. Tufts,
Lidian E. Bridge,	Sarah W. Hallowell,	Mary Gertrude Jenney,
Annie M. Page,	Mary E. Buss,	Ellen Cole Homer,
Emma Kakas,	Amanda H. Plummer,	Alice M. Lawrence,
Sarah A. Cotton,	Mary B. Dodge,	George J. Porter.
Mary G. Porter,	Elizabeth G. Bigelow,	

Medford, Mass.,
November 11, 1901.

Losing no time in furthering her effort already so well begun, Miss Ayres, signing herself "One of the Subscribers," prepared the following call to organize the corporation:—

MEDFORD, MASS., November 11, 1901.

You are hereby notified that the first meeting of subscribers to an agreement to associate themselves with the intention to constitute a Corporation to be known by the name of MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN dated November 11th, 1901, for the purpose of organizing said Corporation by adoption of by-laws and election of officers and transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting, will be held on Tuesday, the 19th of November, 1901, at 7.30 P.M., at 119 High Street.

[Signed] ALICE C. AYRES,
One of the Subscribers.

The meeting was called to order by Miss Ayres, and was set down as "The First Meeting of the Associates," at which the following-named were present:—

Alice C. Ayres,	Mary B. Dodge,	Amanda H. Plummer,
Lidian E. Bridge,	Gertrude W. Tufts,	Louise G. DeLong,
Sarah A. Cotton,	Emma Kakas,	Ellen C. Homer,
M. Susan Goodale,	Emmie N. Cleaves,	Alice M. Lawrence,
Mary E. Buss,	Sarah W. Hallowell,	George J. Porter.

Mrs. Lidian (Edmund) Bridge was chosen temporary clerk by ballot; whereafter it was

Voted: To organize a Corporation according to provisions of foregoing agreement.

Voted: The name of the Corporation should be THE MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED MEN AND WOMEN; that the purposes of the Corporation should be as specified in the original articles of agreement, and the place in which it is located to be the city of Medford.

Voted: To adopt by-laws.

With such legal mechanics, then, the Home was put in motion. At the first annual meeting, May 7, 1902, there were added to the original Associates Mrs. D. J. Puffer, Mrs. Emma P. Locke, Mrs. Emma F. Lovering and Mrs. Grace T. Joyce.

From a souvenir program of the first annual fair in aid of the Home, held November 4 and 5, 1902, is taken the list of the original officers and committees:

President, Miss Alice C. Ayres.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. H. C. DeLong, Mrs. G. A. Gibson.

Secretary, Mrs. Edmund Bridge.

Treasurer, Mr. George J. Porter.

House Committee.

Mrs. H. R. Page. Mrs. B. C. Leonard.

Mrs. Leonard Tufts. Mrs. G. L. Goodale.

Mrs. Lewis H. Lovering.

Inmate Committee.

Mrs. J. T. Cotton. Mrs. J. E. Cleaves. Mrs. J. M. G. Plummer.

Entertainment Committee.

Mrs. W. B. Lawrence. Mrs. W. N. Homer.

Mrs. W. T. Jenney. Miss E. Kakas.

Mrs. E. T. Bigelow. Mrs. E. F. Locke.

Finance Committee.

Mrs. D. J. Puffer. Mrs. H. L. Buss. Mrs. L. A. Dodge.

Helen Porter Fund Committee.

Mrs. H. C. DeLong. Mrs. Allston P. Joyce.

Miss Mary G. Porter. Mrs. N. P. Hallowell.

Advisory Board.

Mr. G. A. Gibson. Mr. J. A. Chapin.

Mr. A. F. Sise. Mr. E. A. Boynton.

Mr. Rosewell B. Lawrence.

Set up now as an organization, the basic business was to acquire a dwelling place; and to this necessary end — yes, there were misgivings on the part of some—the city was somewhat canvassed to see whether there were enough people in Medford to guarantee the success of the venture.

Five prominent citizens gave each \$500.00, and from many other people came sums varying from \$1.00 to \$200.00.

Homes of this type are ordinarily maintained by bequests, and that was frankly the statement of the courageous women who first went out around the community to solicit cash subscriptions—cash now, but with the years, if the Home for Aged could be carried forward through donations, fairs and other money-raising plans, the time would come when bequests would help relieve the people of the city of a part of the sometimes burdensome call for charity.

A sum was originally raised which was sufficient to buy the house at 66 South street, with 11,816 square feet of land. This was purchased from Cyrus H. Etter, December 12, 1901, and, being put in reasonable repair, was opened to its anticipated (and anticipating) first "family" in February, 1902. The building could accommodate only eight or nine. In anxiety and hope, not knowing what needs might be presented nor the best way of meeting those that existed, counting on a small group of active helpers, yet intending to earn the interest of many more, the first Board of Managers opened the doors of this Home to needy Medford people, and from that day till this—though now in more ample quarters at Winthrop square—the doors swing figuratively wide whenever a vacant place may invite another into the kinship of the quite cheerfully abiding, if mostly unrelated family.

In those formative days many plans were used to promote financial and thereby personal interest in the Home—an interest spreading with the years more widely as the Mystic city grows. In the able presidency of Mrs. M. Susan Goodale—with a keen knowledge of parliamentary law at the tip of her tongue, and an invaluable ability to organize—Medford was almost shocked at its first "tag day." The tags were a violent scarlet. Opposition was intense in spots, but Mrs. Goodale was not to be denied. When the argument was at its height Mrs. Goodale thought to still the storm by including the Medford Visiting Nurse Association in the "drive." This brought a happy reaction, and the satisfactory proceeds were divided between the two charities.

Joseph A. Chapin was approached by Mrs. Goodale to handle the "tag day." He put it over to M. M. Converse, who selected Wilton B. Fay, and it was Senator Fay and the irrepressible Mrs. Goodale who taught the "conscientious objectors" of the city that there were even then only seven letters in the word Success.

From firms and individuals "donation days" brought

to the Home supplies ranging from food to furniture and fuel. The Home for Aged Fair became a perennial and satisfactory source of financing, from the initial one held in the old Opera House (now the Elks building), and continuing with but one or two interruptions year after year. In the later years lunches and dinners on fair days have added materially to the income. These meals are served by women's organizations of the city.

Bequests have been several. The first was from J. W. Tufts, a soda fountain manufacturer, whose home was that residence now occupied as a place of worship by the local parish of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, at 154 High street. Mr. Tufts' interest and that of his family was great in the Home.

The late James S. Sturtevant, for many years treasurer of the local Co-operative Bank, gave a house and land on West street. Andrew S. Waitt gave a vacant lot at South and Manning streets, opposite the first Home. Mrs. W. C. Durkee of Charlestown gave \$500.00. Mrs. Eleazar Boynton raised, it is recorded, \$111.30 by her personal endeavors. Deacon William Barnes of the West Medford Congregational Church gave \$500.00. The money was put in a permanent fund.

One gift of \$500.00 came as a great surprise from Havana, Cuba, in 1916. The donor was Ed. W. Woodbury of Arroyo, Apolo, and it showed that the love for the place of one's childhood lives in the heart of many a boy grown up. The aged giver was an attendant, it was afterward learned, at the Hathaway School, founded in Medford by Aaron Kimball Hathaway to prepare youths for college.

In 1843, three years before he started his private English and Classical High School, Master Hathaway taught the West Grammar School (perhaps the reader has never heard before of this early Medford educational facility), which was located at the rear of the present First Parish Unitarian Church lot.

The Hathaway School itself was conducted — and we

quote from a paper by the late John A. Hooper in the *MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER*—"in the second story of the Medford Branch Railroad Station on Main street, and was afterwards transferred to a double house on the east side of Ashland street. About the year 1850 he built a new schoolhouse on the north side of Chestnut street."

Pupils attended the Hathaway School from various sections of the United States, Mexico and Cuba (as in contemporary years girls attended the then noted Mystic Hall Seminary in the building occupied by J. E. Ober & Son, grocers, at High street and Harvard avenue, West Medford, the dormitory for the seminary being the so-called Mansion House, still extant on Canal street).

After the unsought and unexpected gift to the Home from Mr. Woodbury had been received, investigators learned from the data of the Hathaway School that Everardo W. Woodbury was one of five pupils listed from Cuba. It is not known how he came to learn about the Home.

Another romance in the earlier days of the organization rests in a futurity gift of \$15,000.00 from a gentleman who was born in the original Home building on South street, the late George F. Manning. Official recognition of this gift appears in the annual report of the clerk, Mrs. Mary H. Hayes, to the board of managers in 1915: —

We have recently received proof of the strong interest felt by the late George F. Manning, by his making a futurity gift of \$15,000.00 to the Home, the income when available to be used as a permanent fund. Mr. Manning was born in the house we now use, and was for many years a useful Medford citizen.

Born the son of Susan and Joseph Manning in the residence used fourteen years by the corporation and built by his father, Mr. Manning died at the age of fifty-six, having been educated in the schools of Medford and having spent all his active life in the wool trade in Boston.

Mr. Manning's gift was probably the last having to do with the development and growth of the charity beneath what had been his own rooftree, for at about that time the late Herman L. Buss, reporting for the advisory board of five men—a little known but highly valuable and continuing part of the Home administration—favored the purchase of the A. D. Puffer estate in Winthrop square.

Demands had exceeded accommodations in the South street residence; always there was a waiting list. Roy S. White, a builder, bought the Manning house for a dwelling, and with the sale of the Waitt and Sturtevant real estate the three transactions enabled the Home corporation to pay off the mortgage balance on the Puffer property.

The Winthrop square parcel was secured by the Home's fourth president, Mrs. D. J. Puffer, after considerable negotiation with the executors of her father-in-law's estate, and through her careful planning the people in the Manning street residence were moved into the new establishment with no difficulty whatever. Death in 1932 closed Mrs. Puffer's long and invaluable association with the Home.

The Winthrop square dwelling occupies 47,000 square feet of land. The building, though of another period, is splendidly constructed. There is a large stable which is used for furniture storage and as a workshop. The location is ideal. The cost was \$10,000.00. Extensive improvements were carried out, additional rooms being made by dividing some of the large original rooms on the second floor, and by subdividing the third floor. Increased bath and toilet facilities were a part of the reconstruction program, and the house was heated by hot water.

Following a fire in a Boston private hospital on Christmas morning some years ago, new state laws were passed requiring fire-escapes on such institutions as the Medford Home for Aged, and a considerable expense was thus necessary. The exterior ornamentation of iron stairways

and platforms does not add to the one-time quite acceptable architecture of the Home, but there can be no doubt of the use to which the fire-escapes might be easily put in case of emergency.

The Puffer house was occupied previous to Thanksgiving, 1916, and on New Year's Day of 1917 an informal "house warming" was arranged whereby interest was increased in the important "second step" of the progress of the "family."

As Medford has grown, the calls upon the management of the Home have grown, and rather often now there is a waiting list. The accommodations are for but thirteen today.

There has been suggestion to convert the spacious barn into an ell or an annex. There are dreams of a substantial brick structure to replace the one of wood. But these things are of the future and speak in terms of money, and no bequests have been large, though those from Mrs. Samuel C. Lawrence and Capt. Herbert F. Staples were generous.

So, in general, the indefatigable women by their own efforts carry on. The group shifts with the years, but interest never flags, and all through the twelvemonth succeeding each annual fair, committees are engaged in varied ways earning money to increase the total income from sales at the booths when the final tabulation is made the following day.

It is a labor of love, with the board of managers always in the background, meeting monthly, suggesting, advising, planning, visiting the "family" in Winthrop square; seeing to it that Christmas and New Year are made happy in every way; arranging for religious services, entertainments in the spacious living room, attending in the last details those grayer hours which sadden every household when someone forever goes away.

And the last long home may be in Medford's own beautiful Oak Grove Cemetery, where years ago a plot was purchased so that if when one of the family has

passed on and there is no waiting grave elsewhere in which to sleep, the city's God's Acre receives the earth of its own once more.

The Medford Home for Aged Men and Women is supported solely by the efforts and graciousness of our city's people, to which are added from time to time such bequests as love and thoughtfulness have made; these furnish an income through investment. The admission requirement is \$350.00. If an applicant has more money than that, this institution—it is said to be the only one of its kind in the country permitting it—allows the interest from such sum to go to the inmate during life, but the principal passes to the Home at death.

The great need for such a public benefaction has been shown time and time again when, through lack of accommodation, men and women have been refused admittance, or their names have been kept for considerable periods on the now almost inevitable waiting list. The increase must come with future years and through continuing contributions, subscriptions and purposeful effort. The present income from investments and the annual fair is sufficiently large only to handle the carrying charges of the corporation as it is economically administered today by a capable and tireless board of managers—and sometimes it is found hard to make both ends meet. But where there is a heartening objective there also is a means, and the courageous women foresee the time when a plant will have to be established that will meet the requirements of the city's deserving aged for years to come.

The present matron is Mrs. Lilla V. Wheeler, a loving, charming and capable executive, who has been in direct charge of the Home since August, 1916. The assistant matron, able, conscientious and of pleasing personality, is Mrs. Jessie Rummel, who was selected in May, 1931.

The first matron was Miss C. A. Trenholm. She was succeeded in June, 1904, by Mrs. Alice Cummings; and she was followed by Mrs. — Newcomb, who continued as matron until June, 1905.

Mrs. Newcomb, compelled to resign because of failing health, was replaced by Miss Myra Leavitt, who maintained the establishment in South street until 1913, eight years. Mrs. Mary B. Abbott, who took Miss Leavitt's place, became Mrs. Ernest L. Hatch in August, 1916. Mrs. Wheeler was immediately chosen by the board of managers. At about that time the Puffer place was adapted to the needs of the organization and Mrs. Wheeler has graciously carried on the work during the nearly seventeen years that have passed since the change was made from South street to Winthrop square.

Eight women are recorded in the position of assistant matron. Mrs. — Parker, one of the first residents in the Home, helped until 1905; Miss Jean Chisholm from 1906 to 1910; Mrs. Mary B. Abbott, 1910 to 1913; Miss Rose M. Emery, 1913 to 1916; Miss Catherine Barclay, 1916 to December, 1928; Mrs. Sarah Fraser, 1929 to July, 1930; Mrs. Flora B. Hanscomb, July, 1930, to May, 1931; and Mrs. Rummel since that date.

Up to 1933 there have been six presidents. The first of these, Miss Alice C. Ayres, who actually was the founder in that she stirred the sentiment to form the organization, served about seven years. The others and their approximate terms of service follow:—

Mrs. Emma P. Locke, one year; Mrs. M. Susan Goodale, five years; Mrs. Nellie F. Puffer, three years; Mrs. Marion S. Gleason, fourteen years, a long-continued giving of loyalty and love; and the present able, conscientious and delightful president, Miss Susan F. Chapin, who is in her third term as the Home's executive.

The first treasurer was the late George J. Porter, the only man among the twenty original incorporators. He was succeeded by the late Joseph A. Chapin, father of the present president. Mrs. Sara F. Barnes became treasurer after Mr. Chapin's resignation, and following one year in office the continuing treasurer, Everett W. Stone, was chosen.

In bringing to a close this record of the devoted company of men and women who through years of trial and tribulation and doubt have worked and prayed the great ideal of Alice Ayres into the eminent place it occupies as a foremost charity of this city today, it is well to set down for those who may find use for the list in future time the board of officers and managers for the current year of 1933. This group is as follows:—

President: Miss Susan F. Chapin. *Honorary Vice-Presidents*: Mrs. M. Susan Goodale, Mrs. Lewis H. Lovering. *Vice-Presidents*: Mrs. Sidney Gleason, Mrs. Albert E. Covelle, Mrs. Charles W. McPherson, Mrs. C. Arthur Platts, Miss E. Josephine Wilcox. *Treasurer*: Everett W. Stone. *Secretary*: Mrs. Westbrook L. Johnson. *Corresponding Clerk*: Mrs. Mary H. Hayes. *Advisory Council*: Ernest B. Moore, E. Earl Blakely, Charles B. Buss, Sidney Gleason, Winthrop I. Nottage. *Auditors*: E. Earl Blakely, Sidney Gleason. *Matron*: Mrs. Lilla V. Wheeler. *Assistant Matron*: Mrs. Jessie Rummel. *Managers*: Mrs. Charles H. Barnes, Mrs. Frederick N. Beals, Mrs. Charles F. K. Bean, Mrs. Wallace W. Benjamin, Mrs. Ernest R. Brackett, Mrs. Charles B. Buss, Mrs. Cedric C. Campbell, Miss Susan F. Chapin, Mrs. John Coulson, Jr., Mrs. Albert E. Covelle, Mrs. William N. Curtis, Mrs. Walter F. Cushing, Mrs. Charles R. Draper, Mrs. Josiah E. Gates, Mrs. Edgar F. Gilpatrick, Mrs. Sidney Gleason, Mrs. M. Susan Goodale, Mrs. Isaac B. Hall, Mrs. Mary H. Hayes, Mrs. Dow B. Hicks, Mrs. Kenneth Hutchins, Mrs. Westbrook L. Johnson, Mrs. William Leavens, Mrs. Richard W. Logan, Mrs. Frank W. Lovering, Mrs. Lewis H. Lovering, Mrs. John H. McGill, Mrs. Charles W. McPherson, Mrs. William C. Miles, Mrs. William S. Mitchell, Mrs. Willis H. Newcomb, Mrs. Melville T. Nichols, Mrs. Winthrop I. Nottage, Mrs. Walter G. Perry, Mrs. C. Arthur Platts, Mrs. James H. Rogers, Mrs. Karl D. Scates, Mrs. Joseph C. Smith, Mrs. Everett W. Stone, Miss E. Josephine Wilcox.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

For the first time in many years since the development of the Metropolitan Park system, the district north of Boston has received recognition and an appropriation has been made for much-needed improvements.

One of these improvements is the erection of a bathhouse on the Mystic river at the foot of Foster's court off Riverside avenue. The original appropriation for the construction of bathhouse and beach was \$50,000.00 and it was to be built in Winchester. The residents of that town decided that it did not wish it within its confines and so it was given to Medford. The amount allocated for the building of the bathhouse and beach in Medford is far below the original amount.

The building, it is expected, will be open for use around July 1st. The beach is already in use to some extent. A pool of moderate depth is always available for bathing at low tide, and it increases in depth as the tide rises. Further development of the river basin, which is contemplated when economic conditions allow, will make a beauty spot of the Mystic river basin. Medford for many years has sought the development of this area, and the city and its generous citizens gave many acres for development for park purposes. The city is still paying for part of the land thus given and feels that its sacrifice should receive some substantial recognition.

The money allotted by the government for highway development which is planned might well be used in part toward making the basin project assured, and it is said that an effort will be made in that direction.

JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR.

In the passing of Joseph C. Miller, Jr., on May 17, 1933, the Medford Historical Society has suffered an irreparable loss.

For thirty-five years he prepared and printed the MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER. The care he took in its

issuance made it a medium of typographical excellence and a credit to the organization. As a member of the Publication Committee his suggestions were always constructive.

Joseph C. Miller, Jr., was a life-long resident of Medford, where he was born. His father was Joseph C. Miller, and his mother Mary (Tay) Miller, of Revolutionary stock. He was married November 16, 1886, to Lizzie P. Ellis of Cambridge, who survives him. Of the union two children were born, Marion I. Miller, and Sherburne E. Miller of West Medford.

Mr. Miller followed the trade of a printer from his early youth and conducted his printing business at 7 Lauriat place for forty-three years. He took a keen pride in the excellence of the work produced in his shop.

From early manhood he was actively interested in social, fraternal and civic organizations. He was an active member of Medford Lodge, No. 915, B. P. O. E.; Mount Hermon Lodge and Samuel Crocker Lawrence Lodge, A. F. and A. M.; Past High Priest of Mystic Royal Arch Chapter; Past Illustrious Master of Medford Council, Royal and Select Masters; past president and a charter member of Medford Rotary Club; active in the Medford Historical Society; a member and former director in the Medford Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Veteran Association of the Lawrence Light Guard, Lawrence Men's Club of the First Universalist Church, The Medford Club; and at one time a member of the Royal Arcanum and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. As a young man he was a member of the old Magoun Battery. He was instrumental in founding the Medford Chapter of the Order of DeMolay for boys. In his affiliation with all these organizations his interest was unflagging.

"Joe" Miller's passing is greatly regretted in the city of his birth. At his funeral service on May 20, 1933, in the First Universalist Church, of which he was a loyal supporter, the floral tributes were many in number, and

testified to the love and esteem in which he was held. Friends of years from all walks of life attended the simple rites, and listened to a fitting eulogy by one of the former pastors, Rev. Edward M. Barney of Lynn. The service was in charge of the present pastor of the church, Rev. Fred Hamilton Miller, and burial was in the family lot at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Mr. Miller died as he had lived, a modest, self-effacing man, whose memory will ever be verdant in the hearts of a host of friends and fellow citizens.

—THOMAS M. CONNELL.

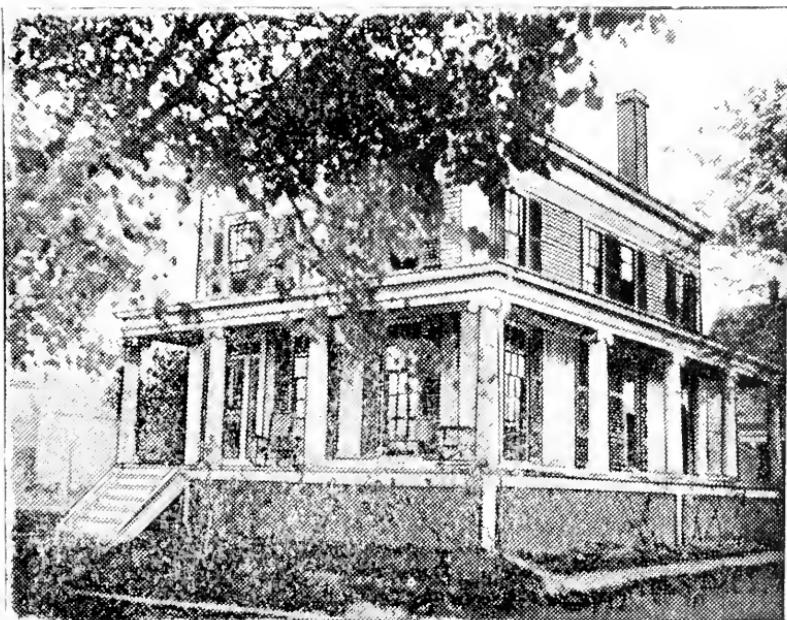
RESOLUTIONS
ON DEATH OF JOSEPH C. MILLER, JR.

Whereas: By the death of Joseph C. Miller, Jr., the Medford Historical Society has lost one of its oldest and most valued members, the Society does here resolve:

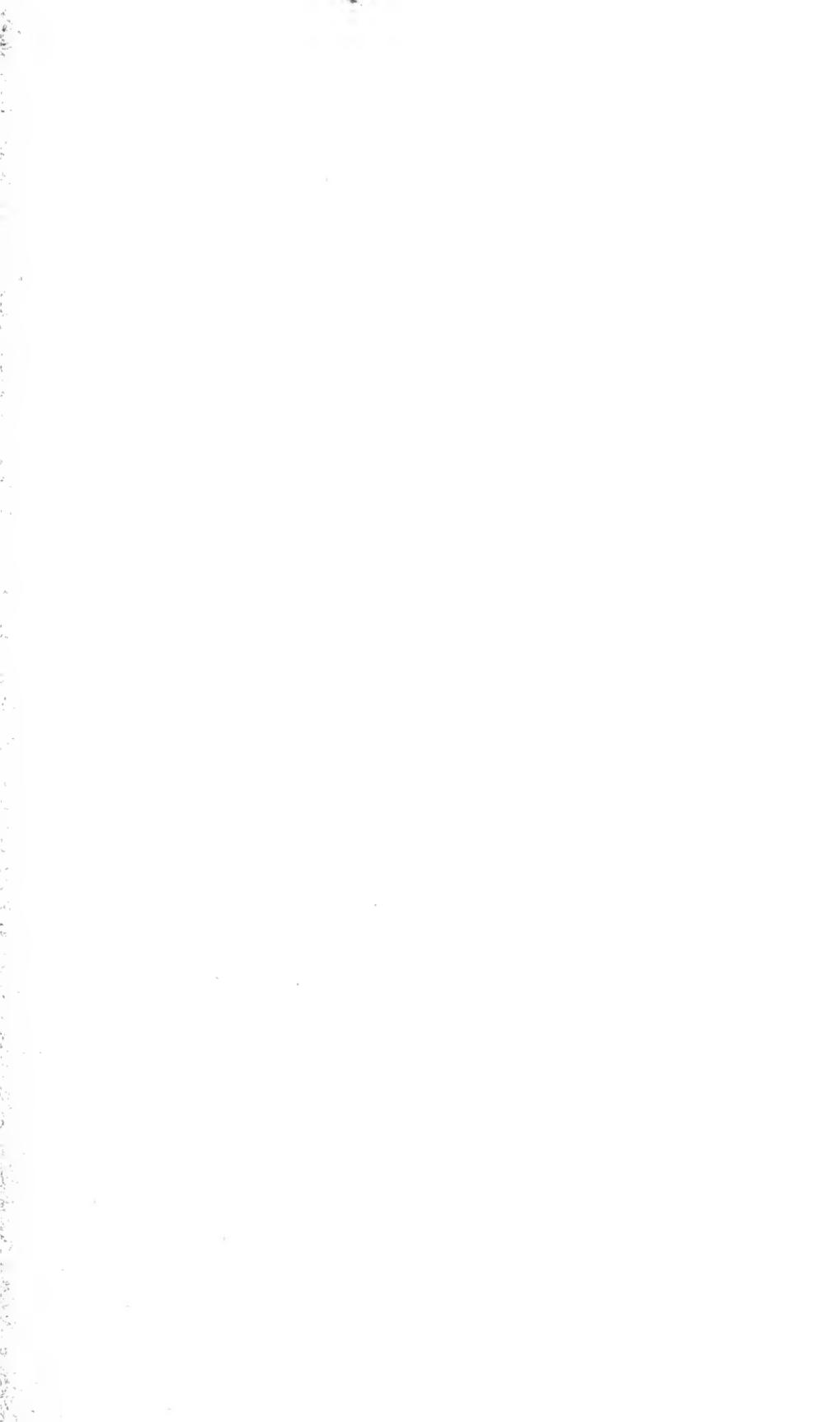
That for his surveillance over the MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER for more than thirty years, for his accurate and scholarly handling of the material submitted, for his excellent and distinctive printing of the REGISTER, for his patience under delay and his faith in the Society, and for his special contribution to the Society in his service for many years on the Nominating Committee, for his unfailing cheerfulness, willingness, and persistence in all that concerned the interests of the Society and of the city, the Society owes his memory this, a tribute, accorded to only a few in its history.

Resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family and to the press, and be printed in the MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

JOSEPH C. SMITH.
RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.
THOMAS M. CONNELL.



FIRST MEDFORD HOME FOR AGED.
Located at South and Manning Streets



C O N T E N T S .

	P A G E
THE LAWRENCE FARM AND FARMHOUSE. <i>Mark E.</i> <i>Gallagher, Jr.</i>	33
THROUGH THE MIDDLESEX CANAL	42
NEW HAMPSHIRE SOLDIERS IN MEDFORD	45
OUR HOUSE MADE NEW.	46
RESOLUTIONS ON DEATH OF CATHERINE CAMPBELL GAFFEY	48

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication.

Harry E. Walker, Chairman.

Joseph C. Smith, Editor. Mrs. Ruth D. Coolidge.

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager. Mrs. Lucy P. Smith.

Burton W. Irish.

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVI.

SEPTEMBER, 1933.

No. 3.

THE LAWRENCE FARM AND FARMHOUSE.

The following instructive paper on the history of the old Lawrence farm was read by Mark E. Gallagher, Jr., before the members of the Medford Historical Society and a group of its friends at the old homestead, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Melville T. Nichols, 353 Lawrence road, who were the host and hostess to the Society.

Mr. Gallagher gave many intimate details of the history of the old estate in marginal notes on his paper which space will not permit of publication, but which are to be found in the original manuscript which is in the library of the Society.

The work of tracing down the different owners and looking up the original deeds was a labor of many hours and makes for the authenticity of the statements given by Mr. Gallagher.

As a descendant of one of the older residents of the city, Mr. Gallagher's preparation of his article was a labor of love, and he was congratulated by his listeners at the meeting for his efforts. He is a graduate of Tufts College and of the Harvard Law School, and is an active member of the Historical Society.

THE story of "The Lawrence Farm and Farmhouse" is not one rich with traditional personages and legends. George Washington never slept here, and no colonial ghost clanks its chains within these peaceful rooms. However, the historian can find interest in, and attach importance to, the quiet eddies and side-streams as well as to the broad flowing river of History.

Because this farmland and house did not merit exploitation at the hands of our historians, we should not feel apologetic for spending our time upon it. The farm has its own little niche in history.

Mr. Gilbert Seldes, in his "Years of the Locust," has an apt quotation which might serve as a commentary on the life of this farm land and house. He says: "When asked, many years later, what he had done during the French Revolution the Abbé Sieyes replied, 'I lived through it.'"

The house shows evidence of having been remodeled and altered at least three times. The doorway undoubtedly is an embellishment on the original entrance; the door in the beginning was flush with the front of the house.

The east living-room may have been a part of the original house. The north wall is of solid brick, which would lead one to believe that at some time it must have been an outside wall. The west wall is wooden, which is evidence that it was constructed as an inner wall. The line across the ceiling indicates an alteration when the room was enlarged and the chimney pushed back. That line is repeated in the room upstairs on floor and ceiling.

In the present dining-room another alteration is plainly discernible on the floor and ceiling. At some time the occupants needed more room there and built on the extra foot of space.

Our hostess has a theory that plausibly explains a third alteration that took place. It appears to her that at some date an old house was moved up and joined on to the back of the original structure—that is, on the north side. This seems reasonable from the variation in construction and materials that is readily seen.

The story of the farm land is largely the story of three families, the Albrees, the Halls and the Lawrences.

John Albree emerges as the one who unified the seventy acre tract that passed down undivided for so many generations. John Albree's own history is recounted in the "Brooks History." He was born on the island of New Providence in 1688. He and Elizabeth, orphaned by a tornado, sought refuge on a Boston ship, whose captain rescued from their ruined home a clock, which some of us have heard called "the weaver's clock." He was apprenticed to a weaver when he first came to America in 1700, at the age of twelve, and we find him assessed on a "country rate" September 2, 1701, for three shillings.

His first forward step in this country came on July 25, 1710, when he bought a sixty-four-rod piece of property from Benjamin Woodbridge. The deed recites the property as being "bounded on the north by the country road." A guess would place it near Meeting-house Brook, since John, being a weaver, undoubtedly started his own shop now and needed power.

In 1711 he married Elizabeth Greene. Four children were born of this marriage, Joseph, Elizabeth, Ruth and Susanna.

Weaver Albree's affairs apparently prospered, for a year after the birth of his second child he purchased a woodlot of twelve and one-half acres from a Mrs. Greaves. The deed described him as a "weaver," which dignifying description did not appear in the first purchase. Then on December 30, 1720, he purchased a dwelling house, grist mill and thirty-two acres of land from John Hall. Hall reserved one-fourth interest in the mill. The deed gives the boundaries as follows: to the west, Willis' land; north, Major Jonathan Wade's woodlot; east, John Bradshaw's land; south, Eben Nutting's land.

The mill has been variously located. Brooks says it was "on the west side of Purchase street [present Winthrop street] contiguous to the land of Mr. B. L. Swan." We can say that it was on Meeting-house brook at any rate, and, very likely, at the spot where Lawrence road leads into Wyman street at the present day. Of course, there was no Purchase street or Winthrop street in John Albree's day.

Brooks further says, "The supply of water was small, as the present banks indicate. There he and his only son, Joseph, wove cloth by water, prepared wool for spinning, and had lathes for turning wood. His house, of two stories, which he built, stood six rods northeast from his mill. The mill stood more than forty years, and was once used for the manufacture of pomatum and starch."

As to the dwelling house secured in this transaction, there is some evidence that connects it with the present house, for Brooks says that the house of John was about ten rods (one hundred and sixty-five feet) northeast of his mill. But in Brooks' time the house had evidently gone, for he speaks in the past tense, and deeds found by me place it nearer the country road than the present site.

This land purchased from Hall is henceforth called "The Homestead" by the Albrees, and John proceeded

now to add to it by purchasing land around it. In 1722 he obtained one acre from John Hall. In 1735 he purchased nine and one-half acres from John Bradshaw; in 1736, nine and one half acres from Solomon Page; in 1737, six acres from John Foye (salt marsh on Bilberry Island); in 1739, thirteen acres from Theophilus Ivory; and in 1746, nineteen acres from Stephen Bradshaw.

In his seventieth year John conveyed the farm to his oldest child, Joseph, who was then in his forty-sixth year. That was on June 17, 1758. Joseph had worked with his father, and being the only boy naturally he was expected to carry on the weaving business. He paid his father two hundred and eighty-six pounds for the property.

Joseph next occupied the dwelling secured from John Hall, ran the weaver's shop and tilled the soil of the farm. The grist mill probably was already in disuse. Joseph had married Judith Reeves, the daughter of Samuel Reeves, the heelmaker, on December 13, 1756. The following children were born to them: John, in 1757; Joseph, in 1760; Samuel in 1761; and in 1768, Elizabeth.

The elder Joseph died in March, 1777, and the papers relating to his estate show that John was appointed administrator of his father's estate, and Samuel Reeves, the maternal grandparent, acted as guardian for the other three.

The inventory of the estate is interesting. In addition to a list of household furniture and utensils there were: (1) a dwelling house and a shop (two hundred pounds), (2) a corn barn, (3) thirty acres of land called "Homestead," thirty-eight acres of land for pasturing, an outlot of twenty-eight acres for pasturing and six acres of salt meadow. The estate was valued at six hundred and thirty pounds. In the appraisers' report they state that there was "The Homestead" with a house, a barn and seventy acres bounded as follows: south, land of Eben Brooks and Timothy Fitch; east, land of John Leathe and Brooks; north, land of Widow Leamon and Ebenezer Hall; west, land of Samuel Hall and Joseph Wyman.

The farm story is now concerned with grandson John Albree. He was the oldest of the children of Joseph and took the land in settlement of the estate and upon agreeing to pay one hundred and eighty-four pounds, seven shillings and ten pence to each of his brothers and to his sister. Joseph and Samuel left Medford for Amherst, New Hampshire, with their patrimony.

John became a tanner and built a tanyard on the property, undoubtedly using the waters of the brook in his trade. Things couldn't have been too prosperous with him, for he was forced to mortgage the property to John Leathe in 1787, and in 1791 succeeded in inducing his brother Samuel to return to Massachusetts to help him. Samuel did so for a consideration, for we find John deeding the property to him in that year, excepting an interest in the tanyard. He held on to this until 1796, when he finally sold it to Samuel, and he drops out of the story of the farm.

Samuel had married, on May 16, 1786, while in New Hampshire, a Martha Hodges of Amherst, and if the Albrees had anything to do with this dwelling we are now in, I would say that he was the Albree concerned. We know that Samuel built himself a separate house, abandoning the house used by his grandfather, father and brother, for in the deed made on July 1, 1796, by which John conveyed the tanyard to Samuel, the bounds recite: south, upon land of Eben Brooks; west, upon land of Joseph Wyman; north, Samuel Albree's land and estate; *east, upon a lane leading to Samuel Albree's house.* This lane probably was Ramshead lane, the Proprietor's lane of the later deeds. This recital would place Samuel Albree's house near or at the present structure.

Samuel kept the property only until 1799, when he deeded it to Nathaniel Hall. Thus at the turn of the century we find a whole new family stepping into our story.

Nathaniel Hall was the third son of Willis and Sarah Hall, born March 12, 1767. He married Joanna Cotton Brooks, sister of Peter Chardon Brooks, on November 26,

1793. Rev. Mr. Osgood recorded the event in his diary for that day.

Nathaniel had followed the footsteps of his father in the distilling business, and his purchase of the farm property in 1799 was either for pleasure or for an investment. He maintained a house on the square, so we do not know who lived on the farm during these years in the early eighteen hundreds.

Nathaniel had difficulty in keeping it up, for he mortgaged it twice, once to Peter C. Brooks and later to his father. Finally, in 1806, he deeded it to Peter C. Brooks. This good man now gave it back to the Halls by deeding it to his sister, Joanna, in her own right, in 1817.

Sometime around 1830 Peter Chardon Hall, with his mother's permission, went out to live at the farm. He married Ann Rose Swan and they had four daughters, who were all brought up here, so far as we know. They were Ann Rose, Jane Webb, Anna and Fanny Maria.

Joanna died before her husband and Nathaniel went out to the farm to live with his sons, and there, it is reputed, spent the last twenty-five years of his life. He died sometime around 1844. It was during this time that his grandson, Francis Parkman, later to become the great historian, came to live with him. This was sometime around 1833.

Parkman was only eight years old, and his four years there were among the happiest of his life. From here it was that he went on excursions into the fells. He described his stay in Medford as follows: "I walked twice a day to a school of high, but undeserved, reputation, about a mile distant in the town of Medford. Here I learned very little and spent the intervals of schooling more profitably in collecting eggs, insects and reptiles, trapping squirrels and woodchucks and making persistent, though rarely fortunate, attempts to kill birds with arrows."

His biographers lay great stress on these days. They claim that they laid the foundation for that clear under-

standing of Nature and her children that is characteristic of his works. He, while writing of Pontiac, says: "To him who has once tasted the reckless independence, the haughty self-reliance, the sense of irresponsible freedom, which the forest life engenders, civilization thenceforth seems flat and stale. . . . The entrapped wanderer grows fierce and restless, and pants for breathing room. . . . The wilderness, rough, harsh and inexorable, has charms more potent in its seductive influence than all the lures of luxury and sloth. And often he on whom it has cast its magic finds no heart to dissolve the spell, and remains a wanderer and an Ishmaelite to the hour of his death."

It was in Medford that the "magic" first was cast on Parkman.

After the fourth year he left, and never returned to the farm, so far as we know.

Returning to the owner of the farm, Nathaniel—at his death, around 1844, his heirs agreed that Peter Chardon Hall should keep the farm. Their deed to him stated the bounds as follows: "Homestead farm containing seventy-four acres . . . with a public highway called Purchase street running over the southwesterly corner thereof and bounded as follows: south, by the land of Mr. Swan and Jonathan Porter; west, by the land of the late William Wyman, Martha Bishop and Edmund Hastings; north, partly by the land of said Hastings and Peter C. Brooks; east, partly by the land of Mr. Swan and partly by land of Mr. Roach and partly by a Proprietor's lane."

Of Peter himself I have very little information. He was a selectman in 1857 and 1858 and lived at the farm until his death in 1871. After his death his heirs rented the land to tenants, and we now skip several years down to the tenancy of one of them, a Mr. Bean, before we come to the last family who carried on the farm.

This man, a "renter," kept pigs on the farm and the odor from this industry was wafted to General Lawrence's nostrils whenever the wind was blowing from the northwest. All of which led the General to proceed to buy

up the property from the heirs of Peter C. Hall. He also retrieved the orchard lots from the people to whom the heirs had recently sold them.

From now on the history is fairly familiar. Mr. Blakely was installed in the farmhouse by General Lawrence and he supervised the work of the farm. Its products went to the General's table, and his cows were pastured beside the quiet brook that still ran through the farm.

The General made many improvements on the property. He laid out a path leading from Rural avenue to the farmhouse; installed a nursery at the end of a cart road that was the continuation of Rural avenue: constructed an underground conservatory for his world-famous hydrangea plants; and built the three granite dams on the brook that so many remember.

Before concluding I am going to digress and relate rather hurriedly the history of the brook itself. The silver thread of the brook is woven through the story of the farm, just as its silver waters formerly threaded and wove their way through the farm borders. If the history of Medford is the history of the Mystic, so also the history of the farm is the history of the brook.

It was its turbulent waters that first attracted John Hall to the erection of his grist mill and led John Albree to set up his weaver's shop. Meanwhile it irrigated the whole region and made the soil fit for farming.

Afterwards John and Samuel Albree, the tanners, used it to dress hides and carry away the tilings. In 1785 its waters had failed somewhat, for John filled up the grist-mill flume.

It was named both Smelt and Marble brook before it was called Meeting-house brook. In fact, John Albree sold the land in 1726 to the group who built the Meeting-house. "Smelts resorted there in great number every spring," writes Caleb Swan in December, 1855. Its waters were lessened in amount when the south dam of the Winchester reservoir was built, so the present supply of water is not that which was used to turn Albree's mill wheels.

A visitor to its banks describes it while under General Lawrence's care as follows: "There's a little valley you reach going westward as High street curves to dip beyond Winthrop square. Just before it goes up Marm Simonds' hill the road passes over a brook, *the* brook of all brooks in Medford. Whence does it come? From two miles to the north, out of what was once known as Turkey swamp, now Winchester reservoir, it finds its way down the woodlands past old gray rocks that throw dark shadows in its pools; sometimes it gurgles over stones and then is silent among clumps of brake and fern and masses of jewel-weed. Lilies swing their bells along its course. It winds down a narrow dell where its waters, once held at flood, turned the wheel of Captain Marble's mill. A high bank and a heap of stones mark the spot. Then it flows under bridges, shaded by willows, through beds of mint; monkey-flowers in mid-summer, the flaming cardinal in August, love its cool water. Then it passes under a stone wall out into the orchard of General Lawrence's farm. Here it forms three levels and, dammed with large blocks of granite, makes a miniature sea (a delight to children for boats and wading). Now it quickens pace and passes under the white flowers of turtle-head guarding the archway, swings past the place where John Albree once held waters back to run a grist mill, and like an arrow crosses the meadow, flows under the roadway near the site of the second meeting-house, and bends its way to the river."

Today its silvery voice is muffled in giant culverts and pipes. Perhaps it is just as well, for its companion during all the years is gone. Today only this house reminds us of the farm there was in Medford.

THROUGH THE MIDDLESEX CANAL.

In the summer of 1829 Samuel Jones Tuck and his wife Judith took a three months' trip through New England, going, of course, by carriage, this being before the days of railroads. Mrs. Tuck wrote a rhyming diary of the trip, which was printed in the Nantucket *Inquirer and Mirror* last summer.

The trip began by a ride through the Middlesex canal, and the portion of the diary telling of this is here given, with the permission of the Nantucket paper:—

Sunday the twenty-fifth of June
It was in the morning very soon
Over to Charlestown I did ride
Likewise my husband by my side,
At 8 o'clock went to the boat
And very soon were set afloat.
We entered on the fine canal
Where there was neither sea nor swell,
Now as I sat there at my ease
Thought to myself it would you please
If I my pen and ink should use
And send you something to peruse.
The scene it is so very fine
That I can scarcely write a line,
Oh never since I've been a wife
Or I will say in all my life
More beauteous sight did ever see.
I wish you were all here with me.
Oh how delightful is the scene,
The roses red, the grass so green,
Variety here is so great
It claims us much as here we sit.
I ne'er before a Lock did see
And of them could have no idea.
It is a great curiosity indeed
To see the water in full speed,
To see how gradual and how still
The boat doth rise up on the hill,
Over us now dressed are the willow trees
And many more the eye to please,
We sailed through many a beauteous farm
And God has kept us from all harm.
How can we view these beauties dear
And not acknowledge, "God is near".

We see his goodness every day
For all what infidels may say.
If any one would wish to walk
Alongside the boat, could with us talk.
When we had reached to Woburn town
There we all stepped out on the ground
Had to pass over Locks all near together
Then we walked on one with another.
It took them more than half an hour
Then we had time for a short tour,
The Sun being o'er the Meridian Line
We thought it about time to dine.
We sat down on the grass so sweet,
And there we ate our bread and meat
Surrounded by green fields and wood
You can be sure it did taste good.
Nigh thirty passengers were there
And each one carried his own fare.
Now by this time, they had got through;
Quick to the boat then we all flew.
We passed there many hills and vallies
And then sailed through a pond of lillies
We reached the head of the Canal
Past 3 o'clock and all was well.
It was there at Chelmsford we got out
And then for Lowell took our route,
It was then two miles we had to ride
Thirteen in the coach and nine outside,
There was a mixture I tell you
And very pleasant people too,
Some were English, some were Scotch,
The rest were Yankees in the coach.
It was then near to four o'clock
When we got nigh where we meant to stop.
There we found our friends all well
Their seat was on a pleasant hill,
It was near the side of Concord river
And there we spent three days together.
Next day we had delightful showers
Which enlivened all the plants and flowers.
It was on an eminence that we were
And we could see four churches there,
Three of them stood quite near together
Just on the other side of the river.
Oh how romantic is the scene
When all around you looks so green !

We see hills interspersed with valleyes and trees,
I feel the sweet refreshing breeze,
As I sit at the window
Taking a view around
Oh how delightful is the scene
How charming is the sound,
To hear the birds on yonder tree,
The frogs in the river cry
And many things that here we see
Are pleasing to the eye.
On Monday Morn we took a walk
Soon after break of day,
And went to see the Irish Camp
That is built of logs and clay,
A lime cask for a chimney
On top their huts is set
The upper end was stopped with sods
For to keep out the wet,
The people within them seemed content,
And all appearing well,
The women were at work within,
The men on the Canal.
Some of the rooms were very neat
With carpet on the floor
While many had to tread on clay
And wanted nothing more.
Many think that if they'd wealth
Forever happy they would be
But a contented mind and health
Are far more preferable to me,
Now as we were returning back
We at the factory stopped,
And there we saw the men and girls
Coming out in large flocks.
The Bell it had rung seven o'clock,
To breakfast they were bound
It was a novel sight to see them
Skipping o'er the ground ;
Three thousand females are at work
In this great business place
And among them you may depend
There's many a pretty face.
One thousand men they say are there
To work with them likewise.
And very swift with skill and care
The weaver's shuttle flies.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SOLDIERS IN MEDFORD.

Whether any soldiers were quartered in Medford during the Revolution has long been a disputed question, aside from the occupation of the Royall house as headquarters for General Stark. Evidence on this point is furnished by the Exeter *News Letter*, which publishes a letter sent home by Robert Dinsmoor of Windham, New Hampshire, part of which is as follows:—

Medford, Jan. 2nd, 1776.

Honoured and Dear father:

I enjoy perfect health at present. Thanks be to a kind Providence. I have nothing strange to write to you, except that orders are this minute come from the Gen that our company shall be freed from other duty, to go and chop wood for the Army about half a mile from our Barracks—when we are cold! I sent a letter to you by Col Moore. We are stationed in a Brick house about half a mile down the river from the Town. This minute Abraham Plunkett, a soldier from Windham, N. H., came in with fifteen letters, which revives my spirits. . . . Last Friday night Gen Sullivan gave orders to his under officers to enlist a party of volunteers, such as were willing to make a push at Bunker's hill, and burn a number of houses on Charlestown neck; accordingly Capt Reynolds and Lieut Gregg and 21 members of our company went with Arms and Ammunition. The whole number that went was about three thousand, provided with matches to set the houses on fire, and spears to scale the walls. They intended to go over on the ice, but the channel being open, they were frustrated in their design. We were all paraded on Winter Hill, in order to run to their assistance as soon as the first gun was fired. But the statement that any of them fell through the ice is false. We have plenty of provisions.

ROBERT DINSMOOR.

OUR HOUSE MADE NEW.

In the late winter of 1932-33, a special meeting of the Society was called to consider an offer from a local organization to purchase our property. Sentiment developed at this meeting against making any change, and subsequently the offer was withdrawn.

For some time it had been realized that considerable expenditures for repairs and renovation were essential to the continued use and enjoyment of our building. At the April meeting of the Directors, it was felt that the time had come to meet this situation, and it was unanimously voted to proceed at once with the work; the President and Treasurer were authorized to borrow such an amount as might be necessary to cover costs which had been carefully estimated.

The work has now been completed, within the sum set by the Board.

In the building, repairs have been made to the foundation, walls and windows. All roof leaks have been attended to. The library has been opened from end to end, all superfluous partitions, doors, cupboards and racks removed and book shelves installed at a uniform height around the entire wall space. The second-floor walls, woodwork, ceilings and floors have been painted or stained throughout. All the walls and woodwork on the ground floor have been done over, the basement walls, woodwork and floors refinished. A special room has been set aside and equipped with shelves for the filing of the REGISTER since its inception.

New electric-light fixtures and switches are installed throughout the building and, with this, practically complete rewiring, thus removing a possible fire hazard. A new wall photograph display feature has been placed in the auditorium. The position of several doors has been shifted to provide proper opening, and many minor details given attention. Forty new seats have been purchased and all the old chairs refinished.

Due credit must be given Herbert M. Marvel, Treasurer of the Society, for his work in making all these changes possible at a minimum expense, and his unflagging zeal in supervising the work.

Then came on the work of restoring every book, document, pamphlet and relic to its new resting place. This came under the charge of Mrs. Emma M. Gray, Curator and Librarian, who, with her committee, worked through the long, hot summer.

From the museum to the library the Medford Historical Society is a credit to itself and the community, and the applause goes to Mrs. Gray and her assistant, Mrs. Caroline Robinson, and to Mr. Edward J. Gaffey, chairman of the House Committee, with Mrs. Mabel Mann Meloon, Mrs. E. Gertrude Lane, Mrs. Ellen R. Hayes, Mrs. Alice Blaikie, Mrs. Charles T. Daly, Miss May Songster, Miss Elizabeth Howe, Miss Helen Elliot, Mr. E. Earl Blakely, Mr. George W. McCoy, and Miss Mary Davis for her advice of library classification.

Mrs. Gray and Mr. Marvel turned over the completed work to the President, Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge, on September 23d, when a house-warming took place, together with an ivy-planting ceremony to commemorate this restoration.

After the able address of the President the members and guests viewed the Society's treasures during the afternoon and evening. The occasion was made even more memorable by the work of the Hospitality Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Edward Rollins, who gaily decked the building with beautiful flowers and dispensed refreshments from a finely appointed table. The whole scene will linger long in the memory of all present.

All is in readiness for the current season of 1933-34 in the new-old surroundings made possible by vision and self-sacrifice and service.

AT the meeting of the Medford Historical Society held at the headquarters of the Society October 16, 1933, the following resolutions were passed and ordered entered on the records of the Society and a copy sent to Past President Edward J. Gaffey and printed in the HISTORICAL REGISTER.

In Memoriam

CATHERINE CAMPBELL GAFFEY

Resolved that

By the death on August fourth, nineteen hundred and thirty three, of

Catherine Campbell Gaffey,

wife of Edward J. Gaffey, the Society has lost one of its most willing and steadfast supporters.

She came to Medford, the birthplace of her husband, a bride, about thirty-five years ago. She was a gentle, retiring Christian woman, the finest type of wife, mother and friend.

The Historical Society gives its heartfelt sympathy to Mr. Gaffey and to the sons, J. Raymond, Andrew F., and Edward J., Jr., and to those others held so dear in her life, in this their greatest sorrow.

EMMA M. GRAY
CHARLES T. DALY
RUTH DAME COOLIDGE



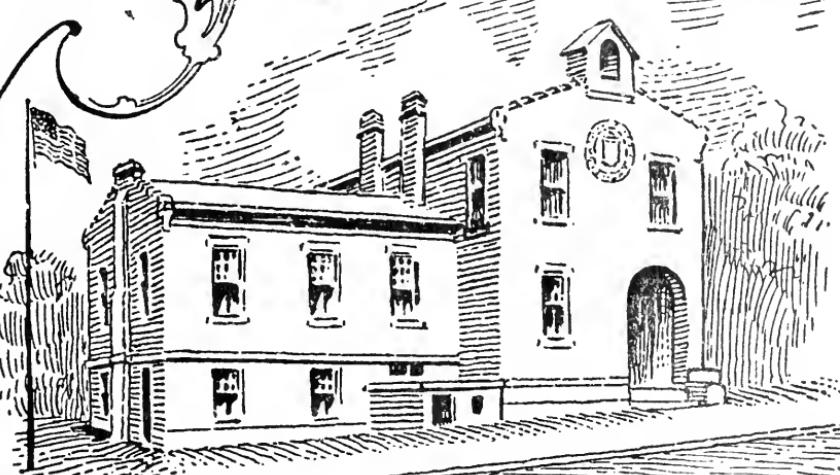


VOL. XXXVI.]

MAR 15 1934

[No. 4.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



December, 1933

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PRESIDENT WASHINGTON VISITS GENERAL BROOKS. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	49
MEDFORD'S HIDDEN BROOKS. <i>H. J. Nicholson</i>	60
SOCIETY'S PROGRAM FOR 1933	64

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication

Harry E. Walker, Chairman

Joseph C. Smith, Editor

Mrs. Ruth D. Coolidge

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager

Mrs. Lucy F. Smith

Burton W. Irish

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in
the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for
the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVI.

DECEMBER, 1933.

No. 4.

PRESIDENT WASHINGTON VISITS GENERAL BROOKS.

Copyright by Ruth Dame Coolidge, 1934.

FOREWORD.

THIS play, written by Mrs. Coolidge for pupils of the Hobbs Junior High School for their Washington celebration, was given by them under the title of "A Break in the Journey" on February 17, 1932, at the Historical Society headquarters, with this cast:—

GEORGE WASHINGTON	FREDERICK BREED
GENERAL BROOKS	RAYMOND BOSHCO
MADAM BROOKS	BARBARA BURNS
LUCY	ALLISON BRAYTON
ALEXANDER	CROSBY BAKER
JOHN	GEORGE LOHMLIER

The play, repeated as part of the celebration for the bicentennial of Washington's birth, at the Royall House, June 17th and 18th, 1932, by the Royall House Association and the Medford Historical Society, had the following cast:—

PRESIDENT WASHINGTON	HENRY P. VAN DEBOGERT
GENERAL BROOKS	SYDNEY GUILD
MADAM BROOKS	MARGUERITE FINNEY
LUCY	ALLISON BRAYTON
ALEXANDER	OLIVE D. COOLIDGE
JOHN	GEORGE LOHMLIER

A note of interest was that the dress uniform of General John Brooks, undoubtedly worn by him on this occasion, was worn by Sydney Guild. The uniform has been for years in the possession of the Medford Public Library. The dress hat of General Brooks was given to the Historical Society this year by Mrs. Frederick Brooks.

The dining-room of the Royall House, in which the play was presented, was panelled, during the restoration

of the house by Dr. Green, with panelling taken from the "Jonathan Watson house"—the house in which General Brooks was living when he received Washington—so that the panelling was the authentic background for the play.

The site of this house, next the Unitarian Church, was marked by the Historical Society April 19, 1932, with appropriate exercises.

This dramatic sketch is based upon the visit of General Washington when, shortly after his inauguration as first President of the United States, he went on a tour throughout the eastern states. Passing through Medford, he stopped to breakfast with Major-General Brooks, who had served with him throughout the war.

John Brooks, now Major-General of the State Militia, was living at the time in one-half of a house standing west of the meeting-house, still the site of the First Parish (Unitarian) Church. There was a schoolhouse on the other side. Madam Brooks, at her husband's request, served for breakfast corncakes, of which the President was very fond. The three children were at this time of the ages here represented, but the conversation, alas, has to be imaginary. It will be remembered that General Brooks was also a practising physician of high standing, and later was seven times Governor of Massachusetts.

CAST: General Washington; Major-General Brooks; Lucy, his wife, aged thirty-six; his daughter Lucy, fourteen; his son Alexander, eight; and John, aged six.

Scene: Large front room in the residence of General Brooks, October 28, 1789. At one end is a dining-table partly set with china and glass. There is a "Welcome" sign on the wall. A fireplace is at one side. Everything is immaculate.

Sound of voices from rear. "Left, right, left, right!" Enter John and Alexander, armed with home-made broom and poker, Alexander leading. They march around the room, marking time.

ALEXANDER. Company, halt. (They stop. John, pitching into Alexander's back, falls down and scrambles up.)

ALEXANDER. (Glaring at him.) Didn't you hear the command?

JOHN. Yes, Alec.

ALEXANDER. "Yes, sir," — and salute.

JOHN. Yes, sir. (Salutes.)

ALEXANDER. Now, about face.

(They turn, but John only half way.)

ALEXANDER. Lieutenant John Brooks, I'm certainly ashamed of you! The President of the whole United States coming to your house this morning and you don't know how to about face.

JOHN. But I thought—

ALEXANDER. Soldiers don't think, they obey. Now right face. (*John grimaces.*) I didn't say make *up* a face. Do it again. (*They about face until both face audience.*) Now present arms. (*John puts his at rest.*)

ALEXANDER. John Brooks, what do you think General Washington will think of you? He'll say, "And are these your boys, General Brooks?" And father will say, "They are." And President Washington will say, "And are they going to be as good soldiers as their father?" And I shall say, "I am, Mr. President." And he'll say, "And this little boy?" And I'll have to say, "Mr. President, John can't present arms correctly. He can't even about face or halt. (*John sticks his fists into his eyes and begins to howl. The poker clangs to the floor.*) He doesn't know anything more about fighting than a British Redcoat."

JOHN. I do, too. I could beat an old lobster-back any day. (*Enter Lucy at right.*) I hate the mean old British soldiers!

LUCY. (*Very much dressed up and excited.*) Yes, down with the British! But, boys, what are you doing?

ALEXANDER. Just drilling the company.

LUCY. Well, what do you mean by making John cry?

ALEXANDER. He's a crybaby, and not a soldier at all.

JOHN. I'm not. I am too.

LUCY. (*Laughing.*) Well, never mind what you are, but put that poker away this moment and get that broom back in the kitchen. You'd better have the bugler sound retreat.

ALEXANDER. Forward, march. Left, right, left, right. (*They exeunt, Alexander with broom, but John has restored his poker to the fireplace.*)

(*Lucy runs to window and peers down the street. Madam Brooks enters right.*)

LUCY. Oh, mother! when do you suppose he'll come?

MADAM B. Any moment now, I should think.

LUCY. Father says he's so tall and handsome!

MADAM B. Lucy, my dear! (*Reprovingly.*)

LUCY. And brave and good—I mean, of course. Oh, dear, I'm so excited!

MADAM B. Is there no sign of them yet? (*Moves to window.*)

LUCY. Why, I believe you are as excited as I am, ma'am! (*Runs to her across the room and jumps up and down.*)

MADAM B. (*Laughing.*) 'T would not be possible, I think.

LUCY. You just pretend you're not, that's all.

MADAM B. 'Tis self-control, my dear, and yet, I will confess, it is like a dream come true. (*Comes center.*)

LUCY. Oh, dear, the street is still so quiet!

MADAM B. Well, your father said they might be delayed. I am glad he is in the military escort, so there will be no chance of their mistaking the way.

LUCY. But General Washington knows all the roads about Boston, does he not, ma'am, since the days he used to ride around the fortifications when the army was besieging Boston?

MADAM B. Yes, he came to Medford many times then, and some of the New Hampshire troops were quartered in the town. 'Tis said he visited General Stark in the Royall House.

LUCY. Then he'll surely know the way.

MADAM B. But many people will wish to salute the President in this tour of his through our New England states and he must make many stops.

LUCY. He may make stops, but think, mother, no one has him to breakfast but us right here, in this very house! I cannot believe it! Pinch me, mother, to see if I be dreaming.

MADAM B. I'll pinch you, little madcap, to see you forget not your duties. Is the very last thing done?

LUCY. You know it is, ma'am. We rose at five to be certain that the milk of our best cow be cool in the pitcher and that the corncakes be baked on the hearth.

MADAM B. And I have ready our home-smoked ham and sausage-meat and pie, though your father says what he cares for especially is corncakes and milk.

LUCY. Only cornpone and milk?

MADAM B. Your father says that when he was a young man he rode away all the morning to hunt with only that for breakfast, and when he was in the army he seldom touched more, though he does like a well-spread table.

LUCY. I wonder why people always notice what a famous man eats, as if that were the clue to his fame.

MADAM B. The fame of Washington, child, is secure, whatever his food. 'Tis not quantity, neither, though if he ate as your father ate when first he came back from the war then perchance he would be remembered by quantity.

LUCY. Suppose, mother, we feed him some of the honey that the bees made after they found their way to the molasses kegs outside the distillery.

MADAM B. Peace, Lucy; it is unseemly to jest about what we set before a man so great in himself and so dear to your father.

LUCY. But, mother, it was such a joke when the honey tasted all of Medford rum!

MADAM B. True, it was a new brand of honey. But if he wishes to sample our excellent Medford rum, we will set a glass on the table, not sweetened by lazy bees.

LUCY. (*At window.*) Oh, dear! (*Enter boys, right.*)

MADAM B. No sign yet of the cavalcade?

LUCY. None, ma'am. (*Comes to center.*) Tell me again, mother, how it is that President Washington so prizes our father?

ALEXANDER. Yes, tell us, too. (*They seat themselves around her.*)

MADAM B. Why, he served under General Washington during the entire war. The very night after you were born, Lucy, your father went to fight at Bunker Hill.

LUCY. And left you alone with a little new baby!

MADAM B. It was his duty. And then, when Washington took command of the army at Cambridge, your father first saw him. I remember how noble and dignified he thought him then.

LUCY. (*Breathlessly.*) And handsome, too—mounted on a magnificent charger.

MADAM B. Tut, tut, Lucy! Handsome is—

LUCY. What handsome does. Yes, I know, ma'am.

ALEXANDER. But he *did* "handsome does," mother.

JOHN. Go on, mother.

MADAM B. Well, all that winter, when the British lay trembling in Boston, your father was working, drilling the raw recruits, and then he helped to fortify the heights in Dorchester.

ALEXANDER. *That* drove the British to their ships in a hurry, didn't it?

MADAM B. Yes, they had to evacuate Boston and sail away, and after that I saw little enough of your father for seven years.

LUCY. Seven long years!

MADAM B. And only letters to tell about the battles and the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga.

LUCY. 'Twas father that led the regiment in storming the intrenchments, was it not, mother?

ALEXANDER. Yes, he was the one who routed the Hessians and leaped over the walls of the fort, waving his sword in his hand (*illustrates with the poker, narrowly escaping John's head*), and after that the way was open for General Gates to capture the entire British army. But it was father who led the way!

MADAM B. (*Laughing.*) I've told it so many times you know it all by heart. Why ask me to tell you?

LUCY. But you haven't had time to tell how father suffered in Valley Forge. Oh, I can never forgive those cruel British for making our poor soldiers suffer so terribly.

MADAM B. Your father has forgotten his sufferings, and he is not so proud of his fighting record as of the confidence which General Washington reposed in him after the war was over.

JOHN. You mean when a lot of officers wanted their pay and Congress couldn't pay them?

MADAM B. Poor fellows! They needed it badly enough. Most of them had spent all they had for their country and borrowed the money of others, too.

ALEXANDER. But when the officers called a meeting and wanted all of their number to keep their arms and fight for their pay, father wouldn't go to their meeting or let any of his men go, either.

MADAM B. Yes, 'twould have been sad if our faithful officers, who had served so long and faithfully, should have turned their arms against their country at the last. 'Twas better they should wait and hope.

LUCY. And General Washington asked father not to let his officers attend the meeting, and father said, "Sir, I have anticipated your wishes and my orders are given." (*She acts out salute.*)

JOHN. (*Imitating in his slow voice what he has heard so often, and obviously quoting*) And General Washington, with tears in his eyes, took him by the hand and said, "Colonel Brooks, this is just what I expected from you."

(*They all laugh, and Alexander, who with Lucy has been slipping to the window at times during the preceding, gives a shout.*)

ALEXANDER. He's coming! (*He and John charge for the door, left.*)

LUCY. Oh, 'tis really he! See the cavalcade down the street! What beautiful horses and what a crowd! Come, mother, let's all go out and watch. (*Tries to pull her by the hand.*)

MADAM B. No, I will wait here as hostess to greet him on the threshold. Go you, Lucy, if you wish. (*Lucy picks up her full skirts and runs.*)

MADAM B. How he stands out above all the others, and how he rides as if he were one with his horse!

LUCY. (*Entering.*) Mother, the whole school is drawn up in the yard of the schoolhouse next door. Each boy has his quill behind his ear.

MADAM B. Very suitable, my dear. (*Lucy darts out again.*) 'Tis something they will remember all their lives.

JOHN. (*Darting in.*) Mother, can you see? They have dismounted. They're taking the horses over to the Greenleafs'.*

* Greenleaf's house stood where St. Joseph's Convent now stands.

MADAM B. Is he talking to the school children? I can't see him now.

JOHN. I'll go and see. (*Exit John.*)

MADAM B. The President of the United States under my own roof! I must be worthy of him and of my husband. (*Practices a curtsey. Enter John.*)

JOHN. He's finished, mother. I think he's right here. I'll see.

(*John exits, only to collide with General Washington, who is just being ushered in by General Brooks. Lucy and Alexander follow.*)

WASHINGTON. (*Smiling.*) Why the hurry, son? Are the Regulars coming?

JOHN. (*Ready to sink into the earth.*) I—I just wanted to see you, Mr. President.

WASHINGTON. Well, here I am. Now, tell me, sir, what do you think of me?

JOHN. You're taller, sir, than father, but I don't think you're any handsomer.

WASHINGTON. (*Laughing.*) Nor I, son, nor any better man, either. Let me tell you something. I've known your father longer than you have, and he's one out of a legion. You can always trust him absolutely. What is your name, son?

JOHN. John Brooks, sir.

WASHINGTON. You couldn't start with a better name.

(*Mrs. Brooks comes forward from the back of the room and her husband leads her to the President.*)

BROOKS. My wife, Mr. President. (*She curtsies to the ground and the General makes a sweeping bow.*)

MADAM B. 'Tis the proudest day of my life, sir, to have you beneath our roof.

WASHINGTON. Madam, it is an honor to be here. Your husband is my tried and faithful friend.

BROOKS. Lucy, the President has many miles to travel. It were well we might breakfast as soon as might be.

MADAM B. All will be ready instantly. (*Exit, right.*)

BROOKS. This is my daughter Lucy, General. (*Lucy curtsies as Washington bows.*)

LUCY. May I take your hat and cape, sir?

WASHINGTON. Thank you, my dear. You remind me of a little maiden who spoiled her old stepfather at Mount Vernon.

(*Washington turns away and finds John at his side again, followed by Alexander.*)

WASHINGTON. And this is the little Minuteman who rushed headlong into my acquaintance. And this is—?

(*Lucy assists Madam Brooks in bringing breakfast into the room.*)

BROOKS. My son Alexander.

WASHINGTON. Good-morning, Alexander. I tried to get a bust of you for my library, once. Are you still looking for more worlds to conquer?

ALEXANDER. I should like to be a great man—like you, sir.

WASHINGTON. (*Patting him on the head.*) And are these all your boys, Colonel?

BROOKS. They are, sir.

WASHINGTON. And are they going to be as good soldiers as their father? (*Alexander and John exchange glances full of meaning.*)

ALEXANDER. I am, Mr. President.

WASHINGTON. (*To John, who is hanging his head.*) And my little John?

ALEXANDER. I'm sorry, sir, but John isn't a very good soldier. He can't even about face or halt. (*John hides his face in his hands.*)

WASHINGTON. (*Laughing.*) Can't about face or halt? That's splendid! His father couldn't, either.

JOHN. (*Coming out of his terror.*) Father couldn't about face or halt?

WASHINGTON. I never saw him do either. He was always charging straight forward.

JOHN. (*His face shining.*) Oh, thank you, sir!

ALEXANDER. I shall help him and we'll fight the British together.

WASHINGTON. I trust when you grow up there will be no more wars. Your father and I would not wish for you to know what we have known of war.

MADAM B. (*Coming forward.*) The breakfast, sir, is ready. (*They move to the table and sit down, Lucy waiting on table and the two boys seen and not heard in the other part of the room. They listen respectfully during the grace.*)

BROOKS. Almighty God, we thank thee that out of perils manifold thou hast vouchsafed that friends come together to give gratitude to thee for thy protection in the past and thy favor in the future for those who continue to serve thee in faith and fear. Bless this food to our use and us to thy service. Amen.

MADAM B. Our New England ham, sir, they say touches not Virginia ham, but if you would care for that or for the corncakes—

WASHINGTON. Your husband has betrayed my tastes, madam. You spoil us men.

MADAM B. We have done so long without them, sir, that when we have them safe at home we wish to make them content.

WASHINGTON. I see, madam, why your husband was ever so anxious to get back home to his wife. Sometimes, Colonel Brooks,—excuse me, sir, I called you that in thought of the times I did depend on you. It should be Major-General now, with the honor of your state position.

BROOKS. Call me what is most natural to you, sir. The rank makes little difference so that I rank the same with your friendship, sir.

WASHINGTON. Then, Colonel Brooks, I do sometimes think these women suffered most in war in apprehension and in loneliness, too often in poverty and privation.

MADAM B. 'Twas our only service for our country, sir, unless the chance came to us to do more. You remember, sir, one Mrs. Fulton of this town.

WASHINGTON. Oh certainly, I do, who walked at midnight into Charlestown and rowed across the river to carry a message for me. Is she yet living?

MADAM B. Yes, and comes regularly to our meeting-house next door. She prizes above all things the fact that you called upon her and drank with her in a bowl of punch.

WASHINGTON. A valiant soul. The war found many such. And found some, too, infirm of purpose.

BROOKS. Such as our good Colonel Royall of Medford, as kind-hearted and generous a man as ever breathed, who fled to England when war came.

(*The boys advance, listening.*)

WASHINGTON. Colonel Royall—he was one of the Governor's Council when first I came to Boston in 1755. Governor Shirley was the English governor to whom my errand was. Governor Shirley and Colonel Royall, gentlemen, both of them!

LUCY. But he was an English Tory, wasn't he?

ALEXANDER and JOHN. British lobster-backs, Redcoats!

MADAM B. Children! (*They retire.*)

WASHINGTON. General Shirley was one of the finest gentlemen I have ever known. I can remember still how he charmed me. And he saw ahead, too,—the danger of the French along the frontier.

LUCY. But the French! Why, they were our friends in the war, weren't they?

WASHINGTON. Our brave, true friends. Without the French we might never have won our independence. And yet we used to think them barbarians for inciting the Indian massacres. I can remember—but no. I try to forget that horror. We'll just say we change our viewpoint as we grow older.

BROOKS. Yes, 'tis strange how our lives alter. When I was a young man, just before I went to Lexington, I can remember that I asked nothing more than to practice medicine all my life and relieve suffering.

WASHINGTON. And I suppose that you inflicted more wounds than you could ever have healed. 'Twould have made you rich, Dr. Brooks, could you have treated the cases you made for yourself.

BROOKS. But you, sir, always wished to enter the career of arms, did you not?

WASHINGTON. Perhaps as a young man I was desirous of being a soldier, but after my campaign with Braddock there was nothing I would have desired more than to settle down on my plantation and be a Virginia planter.

BROOKS. To make the fields blossom, instead of laying them waste?

WASHINGTON. Exactly, sir, and it is to me still the ideal life, with opportunity for experiment, study, leisure and culture. (*John tries on General's hat which Lucy had hung at the side of the room.*)

BROOKS. And you were torn from it to carry through a great war and become President of a new nation. 'Tis strange.

WASHINGTON. (*To John.*) Come here, sirrah. (*John trembles and snatches off hat.*) And you too, sir (*to Alexander*). You would be soldiers, boys?

ALEXANDER and JOHN. Yes, Mr. President.

WASHINGTON. (*Sadly.*) Our brave young country, with all her problems and her poverty! She will need you boys, whether you fight on the field or on the farm.

ALEXANDER. I want to fight on the sea.

WASHINGTON. Oh, a sailor! Well, America needs you, too. But remember, boys, when you have conquered an enemy you must try to make him your friend.

BROOKS. You know, boys, how I deplore your speaking as you do about the British.

ALEXANDER. The boys at school —

BROOKS. Let the boys at school say what they will, but remember you how General Washington treated his enemy Cornwallis. Will you not tell them yourself, General, what answer you made when the officers held their banquet after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown?

WASHINGTON. An old story, but 'tis to the point. The custom is, children, as you know, for each man to give a toast, and as Cornwallis was high-spirited enough to face his captors, I made the toast in his honor that courtesy demanded and said, "Gentlemen, the King of England," but I added, "May he stay there," and that made all of them laugh. Even Cornwallis joined in, and ever since he has been my friend.

LUCY. (*Slowly.*) Then you have no feeling against the British who made you suffer so long and kept you from your Mount Vernon?

WASHINGTON. No, child, nor must you. Perhaps the day will come when you might even marry an Englishman: for after all, you are of English blood. Never hold hatred in your heart.

ALEXANDER. But whom shall we fight if we can't fight the British or the French?

WASHINGTON. (*Laughing.*) Fight yourself; that is your most difficult enemy. So I have found all my life. But if the time comes when our little weak republic needs you, fight, not to destroy her enemies, but to protect her.

(*Rapping at door.* *Alexander runs out and comes back.*)

WASHINGTON. (*To John.*) And remember, boy, never learn to about face or halt in the service of your country.

ALEXANDER. They have brought your horse again, and the escort is ready to ride on when it pleases you. And oh, such a beautiful horse!

WASHINGTON. I am sorry he has to bear me away from my old friends, and my new ones too, I hope. Madam Brooks, I thank you for your hospitality. I believe that even Virginia ham could not outdo your ham or your cornpone. May no war ever tear your husband from your side again. Good-bye, my dear (*to Lucy, who brings hat and cape.*) And, soldiers, I salute you, defenders of your country. (*Women curtsey and men salute.*)

ALEXANDER and JOHN. Good-bye, General.

WASHINGTON. And to you, my excellent trusted friend, farewell for the present. Nothing I can wish for you is better than what you have—your home, your family, your chosen occupation. But I believe the time will come when your state will confer still greater honors on you. I would that life were not always the one word—farewell.

(*He raises his hat and turns back, framed by the door.*)

CURTAIN.

The author was enabled, by the accident of time, to make the prophesies of Washington come true. Dr. Brooks not only rose to the height of his own profession, but was seven times governor of the state. Lucy married a Canadian, a comrade of her brother's at Harvard, and lived in Toronto. She died young, but her son in time became mayor of Quebec. John studied medicine with his father, but fell in the battle of Lake Erie, a brave, greatly mourned lieutenant. Alexander served on both land and sea, but was killed when in service against the Indians in Florida by the explosion of the boiler of the steamboat on which he was traveling, in 1838. Governor Brooks' wife died two years after the visit of Washington and did not live to see her husband governor nor to suffer the loss of her sons and daughter.

MEDFORD'S HIDDEN BROOKS.

The first settlements of a new country have normally and permanently occurred where water for drinking and other domestic uses was readily obtained; where the normal rainfall, both in quantity and distribution, was adequate for agriculture; where the land was free from both drought and overflow; where communication between settlements was readily accomplished; where location was accessible to navigation; and where water power could be cheaply and readily developed for primitive manufacturing. All of these elements have had important influence in the development of every country.

Medford began with a grant of land on the north side of the Mystic river to Matthew Cradock in 1630, and with the migration of a band of adventurers from Salem in 1629, who settled along the Mystic river because of the soil conditions and availability of water for agriculture, navigation and power.

A casual study of the map of Medford shows the city located on land bordering both sides of the Mystic river, land which is unusually well supplied with springs, brooks and lakes so necessary to the life of the early settlers. Probably more than any other thing, the presence of a sufficient number of springs and brooks and the river influenced the decision that created the settlement of Medford.

The earliest plan of Medford was one made by Caleb Brooks in 1736 and is now on file in the archives at the State House. The plan shows the Mystic river and the boundaries of the original grant to Matthew Cradock. There is little else on the plan to identify Medford other than the Mystic river and the brooks.

It is of singular interest that the windings of the river and the location of the brooks were, within the limits of accuracy of the ancient plan, the same as they are today.

On the next earliest available plan, that made by Ephriam Jones in 1754, at the time when the present area of Medford south of the river was being sought as an annexation from Charlestown, which town at that

time completely surrounded Medford, the river and its tributary streams were plotted more or less precisely as they have been known for the past fifty years.

Medford originally lay entirely north of the river and was drained by five major streams flowing generally in the southerly direction to the Mystic river. On the opposite side of the river there are but three brooks, as we know them today, that drain this area of Medford and portions of Somerville.

An inspection of the city map shows the city sectioned and bounded by its streams and lakes. The Mystic river is shown with its main source, the Mystic lakes, which in turn receive water from Lexington and Arlington through Mill brook on the southwest and through the Aberjona river on the northwest.

Beginning at the east side of the city on the north side of the river we find Creek head, later called Nowell's creek, which incidentally, throughout its greater length, determines the boundary between Malden and Medford.

Moving westerly, we find the next major brook Gravelly creek, earlier known as Mountain stream, with its east and west branches; as the earlier name implies, it originates in the higher sections of land which are now the Middlesex Fells reservation. This stream is the most turbulent and troublesome of all the brooks in Medford.

Next in order of direction is Marble brook, which finds its source in the most northwesterly corner of the city, in swamp land once known as Turkey swamp, which today is the site of the reservoir constructed to impound water for the town of Winchester. This stream is now known as Meeting-house brook, so named because the first Meeting-house in Medford was built near it in 1696 on what is now High street. In the records of the division of the estate of Jonathan Wade, who died in 1689, mention is made of a mill situated on Marble brook.

Next we find Whitmore brook, which was named for Deacon John Whitmore, who settled there in 1675 and through whose land the stream flowed. Historians of Medford have mentioned more than one mill located on Whitmore brook in pioneer days.

Cranberry brook, less generally known today than the other brooks, rises in the hills of North Medford and proceeds through a swampy plateau to what is now Fells-way West at Fern road. From this point the stream flows in an easterly direction, being entirely covered until it finally reaches the Malden river.

South of the Mystic river and to the east is Winter brook, so named because of its course along the northerly by easterly slopes of Winter hill. It was on the easterly slope of this hill that Governor John Winthrop built his stone house.

Moving westerly, we locate Two Penny brook, so called because of its size. It rises in Somerville near the easterly slope of Walnut Tree hill, now called College hill. Tradition says that this hill was once covered with a growth of walnut trees which were cut down for the use of the Colonial army in Revolutionary days.

Then comes Tanner's brook, the course of which is entirely lost to view, as it is covered throughout its entire length. Its source was two small ponds, the location of which was about where Corey street intersects Douglas road at the present time. The brook flowed northerly across Summer street and then easterly until it crossed Main street and discharged into what appears to be the old branch canal at a point near the intersection of Mystic avenue and Swan street.

The Middlesex canal crossed High street at Boston avenue by means of a flume supported on granite piers. These same piers later became the supporting piers for the first bridge over the Mystic river at Boston avenue. The water level in the canal was maintained several feet higher than the mean high tide of the Mystic river, and at the branch canal, now Swan street, locks were built to connect the river and the canal. The higher level of the canal explains the reason for the winding route, especially between Main street, Medford, and Charlestown neck, where the location followed an even contour along the bottom slopes of Winter hill.

The surface geology of Medford being mainly clay, it

prevents large amount of rainfall seepage and brings a large part of each rainfall to the various brooks. As the city has been extended and new streets and drains constructed, the old brooks have been straightened from time to time, and now as then are used as the main means of draining surface water into the Mystic river.

Previous to the development of the automobile, the streets were made of gravel; side ditches were employed to collect rainfall from the streets and abutting land. The streets of today, as made necessary by the automobile, have an impervious surface, and underground pipes take the water from the catch-basins, house roofs, and adjacent level land to the brooks. Thus it is that much more water is swelling the brooks and much more quickly than was anticipated a generation ago.

— H. J. NICHOLSON.

In presenting at the meeting of the Society this history of Medford's brooks, by H. J. Nicholson [Medford City Engineer], the use of chronologically arranged plans, some of which were one hundred and fifty years old, the changes in the locations of ponds and courses of brooks were followed through the years by Mr. Nicholson. Among the matters of interest was the old Mill pond at the outlet of Gravelly creek, where a sawmill was once operated by power development by the ebb and flow of the tide. The flow of water from Gravelly creek was also utilized to maintain the operation of the old mill.

SOCIETY'S PROGRAM FOR 1933.**JANUARY.**

Special Meeting — Speaker, Mr. Harold Abbott, on "Mount Vernon Gardens."

Regular Meeting—Speaker, Mr. Clinton L. Bancroft, on "The Parker Tavern, Reading."

Pilgrimage—Christ Church, Cambridge. Bay State League.

FEBRUARY.

Regular Meeting—Speaker, Dr. Robert H. Veitch, on "Here, There and Everywhere."

Speaker, Mr. Richard B. Coolidge, on "Washington in Medford."

Pilgrimage—Old Houses in Melrose.

MARCH.

Special Meeting to consider sale of Club House.

Regular Meeting—Speaker, Mr. Henry Warren Poor, on "Napoleon."

Pilgrimage—American Wing of the Boston Art Museum.

APRIL.

Regular Meeting—Speaker, Mr. H. J. Nicholson, on "Hidden Brooks in Medford."

Pilgrimage—Meeting of the Bay State League in Worcester.

MAY.

Regular Meeting—Mrs. Melville Nichols, Hostess.

Speaker, Mr. Mark Gallagher, on "The Old Lawrence Farm."

Speaker, Mr. Earl Blakeley, on "The Lawrence Farm, My Home."

Pilgrimage—Dedham Historical Society and Brooks Farm.

JUNE.

Pilgrimage—Bay State League Meeting in Cohasset.

SEPTEMBER.

House Warming.

Pilgrimage—Indian Museum and "Fruitlands" in Harvard, Massachusetts.

OCTOBER.

Regular Meeting—Speaker, Prof. Melville S. Munroe, on "The Old Middlesex Canal."

NOVEMBER.

Joint Supper and Meeting with the Royall House Association.
Speakers, Miss Katharine Stone and Mr. Richard B. Coolidge,
on "Historic Shrines in the South."

DECEMBER.

Christmas Celebration.

Mystic Male Singers, Mr. Milton D. Riley, Director.

Speaker, Mrs. Richard B. Coolidge, on "Christmas Celebrations in Colonial Times."

Reader, Mr. Thomas M. Connell.



THE
MEDFORD HISTORICAL
REGISTER

VOL. XXXVII, 1934



PUBLISHED BY THE
MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASS.

MEDFORD
J. C. MILLER, JR., PRINTER

CONTENTS.

No. 1.

	PAGE
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN MEDFORD. <i>Helen T. Wild</i>	1
MEDFORD'S PART IN AMERICAN SHIP-BUILDING. <i>Hall Gleason</i>	10
WASHINGTON HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY	13
LAURA P. PATTEN	15
OFFICERS FOR YEAR 1933-1934	16

No. 2.

HISTORICAL GUIDE-BOOK OF MEDFORD. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	17
HARRY E. WALKER	33
MARKER FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE MEN	33

No. 3.

	PAGE
HISTORICAL GUIDE-BOOK OF MEDFORD. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	35
A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF MEDFORD AS A TOWN. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	51
MRS. SARAH WHARTON HALLOWELL	52

No. 4.

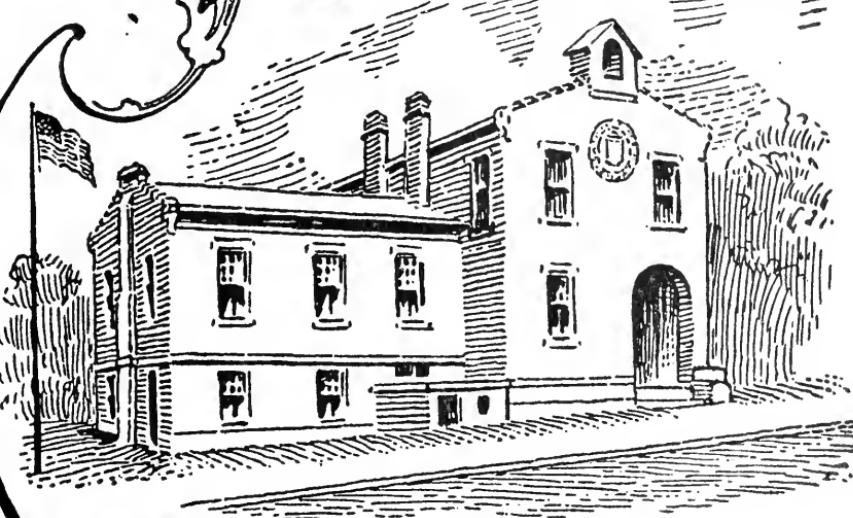
SCHOOLHOUSES	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE SCHOOLHOUSES OF MEDFORD. <i>Edward W. Barrett, B.Sc., M.D.</i>	53
WEST END SCHOOLHOUSE.	<i>Facing</i> 69
ABOUT THE AUTHOR. <i>Editor</i>	80

Vol. XXXVII.]



[No. 1.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



March, 1934

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

C O N T E N T S .

	PAGE
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN MEDFORD. <i>Helen T. Wild</i>	1
MEDFORD'S PART IN AMERICAN SHIP-BUILDING. <i>Hall Gleason</i>	10
WASHINGTON HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY	13
LAURA P. PATTEN	15
OFFICERS FOR YEAR 1933-1934	16

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication

Prof. Edwin B. Rollins, Chairman

Joseph C. Smith, Editor Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager Mrs. Lucy F. Smith

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVII.

MARCH, 1934.

No. 1.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN MEDFORD.

[Read before the Mystic Church on its Eighty fifth Anniversary.]

THE history of the Trinitarian Congregational Church in Medford is divided into four chapters:—
1st. The Town Parish, 1641 to 1713.
2nd. The First Church and Parish, 1713 to 1823.
3rd. First Trinitarian Church, 1823 to 1874.
4th. The Mystic Church, 1847 to the present.

From the last two, three churches have grown up since 1872—the West Medford Congregational, the South Medford Church, and the North Street Church, whose parish is in Medford and West Somerville.

Johnson, in his “Wonder Working Providence,” wrote, “It is as unnatural for a right New England man to live without an able ministry as for a smith to work his iron without fire.”

William Dawstin, the first landowner in Medford, being the only man who bought directly from Cradock, with his wife was coming home from church in Cambridge on Sunday when the tide was too high to make passage at the ford comfortable, and the poor lady fell off her pillion and would have drowned if she had not been rescued by her dog, who was watching for their return from the farmstead shore. This was a practical lesson that there was need of ministration nearer home, but for seventy years the people went far afield for preaching services, with the exception of occasional visits from fellows of Harvard College who had missionary spirit enough to come to them and preach in private houses.

In 1641 the Cradock farm was sold and divided into some eight or ten holdings. Each head of a family was his own priest. Family worship was conducted, and the children were duly instructed in the catechism.

Thomas Willis opened his house for religious services until, in 1693, he offered to the town a lot of land to erect a meeting-house, "on a rock on north side of Woburn Road." A marker indicates the site a few rods west of Meeting-house Brook, on High Street.

EIGHTEEN men subscribed, and every person who refused to do so was taxed twelve pence a head and a penny to the pound (on real estate values) toward building the meeting-house.

It was twenty-seven feet long and twenty-four feet wide, built of logs split and sawed on the spot, fastened by hand-made nails and oak pins, plastered by native sand and hair from the local tanneries. The taxes and subscriptions were paid in lumber, materials and work, and whatever cash was obtainable. The foundations were built of stone, of which there was a plenty. Verily, it was founded on a rock.

When the meeting-house was completed, Peter Tufts, John Hall, Caleb Brooks, Stephen Francis and Stephen Willis were a committee to "seat the meeting-house." A hard task, as worldly wealth determined who should build pews, and social precedence influenced who should occupy the front or rear benches in the body of the house.

The first minister was a Mr. Woodbridge. He was hired by the town for a term of ten years, which proved an era of trouble hardly understandable in these days. He differed with his people on finances, but evidently gave them sound doctrine on the Sabbath. The struggle ended in 1710, when Mr. Woodbridge died.

Peace was restored by the settlement of Rev. Aaron Porter, February 11, 1713. In the house of John Bradshaw, at the corner of High Street and Hastings Lane, the covenant of the first church in Medford was signed by fifteen men, eleven from the church in Cambridge, and one each from the churches in Braintree, Woburn, Malden and Watertown. After the signing of the covenant before Mr. Bradshaw's comfortable fire, the council

adjourned to the fireless meeting-house for the ordination of Mr. Porter. At the age of thirty-two Mr. Porter died, after a pastorate of nine years. He found a congregation disorganized and at odds one with another; he left a church reunited and at peace.

He was succeeded by Rev. Ebenezer Turell, "Parson Turell," as he was familiarly known. He was a graduate of Harvard, a son-in-law of Rev. Benjamin Coleman, one of the shining lights among the preachers of Boston. He was ordained November 25, 1724, and was in active service for fifty years. His sermons, some of which have been preserved, ranged over a variety of subjects, secular, political and practical as well as doctrinal. Mr. Turell always wore gown and bands in the pulpit and that was another subject for controversy with his Methodistic brothers.

During his pastorate it was voted to read the Scriptures in the congregation. This was four years after Hon. Isaac Royall had presented the church with a folio Bible, which must have been used for ornament only, if we read the record aright. I find no reference to Sunday Schools in those days, but once a year the minister preached to the children after he had questioned each one from the catechism. Rev. Charles Brooks calls this service an "annual fright" as far as the children were concerned.

In 1716 the people began to talk about a new meeting-house; all agreed that they needed one, but there were so many differences of opinion in regard to cost, situation, etc., that the congregation did not assemble in their new home until September 3, 1727. Parson Turell took for his text "How amiable are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts." There was no further dedication, as special ceremonies would have savored too much of popery. This church, which was twice as large as its predecessor and had a steeple, was built so close to the brook at the foot of Simonds Hill that precautions had to be taken to prevent the foundation from being washed away. It

was shaped after the style of the Old Ship Church in Hingham, which remains to us as an example of the church architecture of that day.

Again occurred the jealousy about assignment of pews, which very naturally caused a ripple in the otherwise harmonious pastorate of Mr. Turell. The sensitive Mrs. Turell shed many bitter tears before the matter was settled. At last a committee from the House of Representatives drew up an award in form which was final and it placed three or four persons anew.

In this church, which served until 1770, one thousand two hundred and eighteen people were baptized and five thousand one hundred and thirty-four sermons were preached. Mr. Turell objected to building the next house of worship anywhere but on the old site, but his objections were overruled and the third meeting-house was located on the site of the present Unitarian Church.

Failing health necessitated Mr. Turell's retirement from active service in 1774, and David Osgood, just graduated from Andover Theological Seminary, was appointed his colleague. His pastorate covered a stormy period in the history of the country—the Revolution, the construction of a national government and the War of 1812. The young pastor suffered with his people during the war, was an ardent federalist, and never feared to voice his opinions, especially in regard to the War of 1812, which in the town records is called Mr. Madison's war.

In the world of theology controversy was gathering strength. While Dr. Osgood lived, Medford was not affected as a Church by the discussions, but it came out later that individual predilections were very decided. The pastor, a pronounced Calvinist in his youth, was more liberal in his old age, but never allied himself with the new school. However, he did say to a young Calvinist candidate for ordination, "Young man, do you believe all that?" "I certainly do." "Well, well, when you are as old as I am you won't believe half of it."

Medford, too, changed its personnel in those days as

much as it has in the last decade. Ship building had brought in young mechanics, mainly from the South Shore towns, who brought with them different traditions and outlook. The population of farmers, merchants and manufacturers looked askance at these husky young men who worked with tools. When it came to church matters it happened that the old line inhabitants were inclined to Unitarian beliefs and the young men from the home of the Pilgrims were very firm in their adherence to their early ways of thinking. Both parties were equally sincere.

The town voted, ninety to seventy, to call Mr. Andrew Bigelow, a pronounced Unitarian, to the pastorate left vacant by Mr. Osgood, and the Church ratified it by a vote of twenty to three (women evidently having no right to vote) and when Mr. Bigelow accepted the call, division or dissension was certain. The new pastor was installed July 9, 1823, and on August 25, Galen James, Jesse Crosby, Thomas Jameson, Gilbert Blanchard and thirteen women, mostly members of their households, asked for letters of dismission. After most courteous correspondence on both sides, their request was granted. This put an end to the union of church and state, the petition of the town to use the meeting-house for town meetings being denied by the Legislature.

TO unite with the seventeen who took their letters from the first church, Mr. Thompson Kidder came from Park Street Church, Boston, Nathaniel Jaquith from Reading, John T. White from Deerfield and Cynthia, his wife, from Merrimac, Lucy Blanchard from Old South Church, James Forsayth and his wife from a church in Scotland and Thomas and Phœbe Pratt from Chelsea. These formed the membership of the First Trinitarian Church, October 2, 1823.

The parish immediately set about engaging a spiritual leader, and Rev. Aaron Warner was employed as preacher. Immediate steps were taken to build a house of worship. Hon. William Gray of Boston gave the money to buy a

lot on High Street, where the store of Curtin and Sons is now. The structure was dignified and substantial, colonial in architecture, with a four-story steeple surmounted by a weather vane. In the basement was the vestry where the Sunday School was held. In that school there were five classes, taught by three Congregationalists and two Baptists. And, by the way, some fifteen years later, the First Baptist Church was organized in that vestry.

The church was dedicated September 1, 1824, and on the same day Mr. Warner was installed pastor. On account of ill health his pastorate ended in 1832, but Mr. Warner had a long career of usefulness as a professor at Amherst College. Some eight months later, Rev. Gordon Winslow took his place. For some reason, although thirty-one members united with the church during his pastorate of seventeen months, he resigned.

The next minister, Rev. Levi Pratt, died in two years to a day after he was settled.

Rev. Abner R. Baker came to Medford at the age of thirty-three. He was an Amherst and Andover man, and just previous to his coming here had taught in Phillips Academy. As far as I can make out from tradition, I think he was always a school master and some of his grown-up pupils objected. He believed that the old order should not change, and had very little sympathy with those who did not believe just as he did. Accordingly, the Baptist Church was formed in 1840, followed by the establishment of the Methodist Church in 1843.

The Baptist Church attracted some of the younger sons and daughters of Mr. Baker's church to hear young Mr. Bosworth, who preached until 1846. Abolition of slavery and total abstinence were occupying the popular mind. All denominations were divided on these subjects and the young Congregationalists, who loved Mr. Bosworth, were somewhat at sea; this seemed the psychological time to enlarge the Trinitarian meeting-house or to divide the congregation.

After consultation between Mr. Baker and Deacon James, at the suggestion of Mr. Baker a council was called and it was decided to form a new church, which became the Mystic Church. Mr. Baker's pastorate ended in 1848 and for four years a supply occupied the pulpit.

In 1852 Rev. Elihu P. Marvin was installed. From his installation the two parishes, old Orthodox and Mystic, were in harmony. His church was remodeled in 1853 and again in 1860, but in that year it was burned to the ground. In June, 1861, a new church was dedicated. A new organ was purchased and the bell which had been used in the Bell and Everett presidential campaign was hung in the steeple. The town furnished the clock; both clock and bell are now in service in the present Mystic Church steeple.

Rev. James T. McCollum, a Dartmouth College man, came to Medford in 1865 and straightway charmed everybody in town. The Mystic and Orthodox churches united forces in the summer, one month to hear Mr. Hooker at the Mystic Church and one at the old church to hear Mr. McCollum.

To go back again to 1847, and start anew on the history.

Rev. Abner B. Warner was installed as pastor of Mystic Church October 27, 1847. Mr. Warner's pastorate continued until 1853, when he died after a long illness. In those six years his church of sixty members had increased to one hundred and twenty.

The first deacons of Mystic Church were Nathaniel Jaquith, Galen James, Jotham Stetson and John Stetson. All but Deacon Jaquith lived to see the two churches of their early affection reunited.

Mystic Church has been called the shipbuilders' church. Almost all of the early male members were connected with ship building in one capacity or another. Deacon Galen (so called to distinguish him from his brother, Deacon Joe) was the first clerk. He was in partnership

with Mr. Isaac Sprague, a staunch Unitarian, his opposite neighbor and firm friend. Sprague & James yard was the first to abolish serving grog twice a day and to substitute for its cost cash in the pay envelopes. It made a great stir, but in a few years all shipyards followed suit.

In 1849, when he was fifty-nine years old, he thought he had made money enough and retired to private life, but a very short experience of doing nothing was more than sufficient, and, looking around for something to occupy him, he found the *Congregationalist*, which needed money. He bought a half-interest in the paper for \$1,059, and his friends thought that was the last of it, but he launched the firm of Galen James and Co. and made a success of it.

In town affairs he was prominent in all good works. He and the Rev. Caleb Stetson of the Unitarian Church, James O. Curtis of the Universalist Church, Horatio A. Smith, a dyed-in-the-wool Unitarian, and others brought about graded schools and established Medford High School in 1835, one of the earliest schools of the kind in the state.

Mr. Warner, the first minister, was succeeded by Rev. Jacob M. Manning, another young man fresh from college. He was ordained in 1854 and was here only three years when he accepted a call as assistant pastor in the Old South Church, Boston. He remained there as assistant pastor and as pastor until his death in 1873.

The next pastor was Rev. Elias Nason. He served for two years. A man of marked personality, a linguist of great fluency, a botanist of keen penetration, a genealogist of some repute, a musician and an orator of no mean standing.

Rev. Edward Payson Hooker was ordained November 13, 1861. His pastorate continued until 1869. He was the war pastor, and many were the people whom he comforted and encouraged through those heart-breaking years. In the 80's and 90's Mr. Hooker was a resident of Winter Park, Florida, and there founded Rollins College, of which he was the first president.

Mr. Solon Cobb came with his bride to take Mr. Hooker's place, and never were two men more different. Young and breezy, he interested himself in church and affairs outside. I remember, when as a member of the school committee he visited our school, the feeling of pride I had because he was *my* minister.

THE idea of union of the two parishes was agitated in 1866, but it was not then carried through. From the very beginning of Mr. Cobb's ministry he felt that both churches were losing power by maintaining separate organizations, especially after the West Medford church was formed. In 1874 he resigned, and it was generally understood that if a union was brought about Mr. McCollum would be the pastor. The union was consummated, but while we were all worshiping in the old church while the Mystic Church was being enlarged, the man they expected to be its pastor, and whose dearest wish was that he might speak to the united people "even just once," was called up higher.

Miss Mary Louise Washburne is the only present member of Mystic Church who was a member before the union. I was a member of the congregation at that time. Mrs. Edith Farnsworth Kidder is the only member of the old church who is a member now.

Rev. Charles H. Baldwin took up the task, which presented unusual problems, but he molded the two into one until it is hard to remember now who were old Orthodox and who Mystic.

Mr. Baldwin was followed by Rev. T. P. Sawin, a man with a rather different outlook from his predecessors, but who filled the church with many who had not been habitual parishioners. Like Mr. Baldwin, he was called to a larger field.

Rev. James L. Hill was an ardent worker in the Christian Endeavor Society, and during his pastorate there was great activity among the young people. Perhaps

we had an unusual quota of bright young men and women who were willing to spend time and talent.

The Ladies' Social Circle deserves a book by itself. Of the faithful workers there seemed no end. As for the work, there *was* no end. What didn't they do! Sometimes they surprised the natives by an act considered rank extravagance. I remember that they used spoons that were tin, although they may have borne a more polite name. At any rate, they were sharp as knives. Deacon James gave a certain sum of money to a committee to do with as they liked and they bought half a dozen plated spoons, the first of the supply we now have. It made talk, but before long the tin spoons were scrapped and everybody was satisfied. The Circle was merged into the Women's Association in 1906.

Mr. George M. Butler is always greeted with enthusiasm by those who knew him. He brought his wife here a bride, and here they reared a family of boys and girls. Mr. Butler originated the idea of a vested choir, and how we enjoyed it!

And now we come to the limit of our history. Our pastor emeritus, Rev. Thomas C. Richards, and our pastor, Rev. George M. Hylton, are with us, both carrying on the Master's business in the pulpit and out. Some day some other hand will write the record of their labors.

—HELEN T. WILD.

MEDFORD'S PART IN AMERICAN SHIP-BUILDING.

THE Puritans who founded New England had come not to amass wealth by trade or by planting a fertile land, but to attempt a religious and civil experiment in government. On this barren shore along the coast they desired to worship in their own religious faith and be free from unsympathetic outsiders. They hoped also to make their own laws without interference from the English Crown. The founding of this strong colony in a strategic military position formed a bulwark against the

French and their Indian allies from the north, and against the threat from the Dutch in New York.

This sterile strip of land, hemmed in by the foothills of the mountains, was bordered by the sea which, like a stern but friendly jailer, offered a means to enlarge the too scanty production of their land and promised tempting rewards to those who escaped the perils of storms, privateers and pirates and evaded the enforcement of intolerable navigation laws.

For this reason Governor Winthrop, in the year after his arrival, had built in Medford, opposite his estate at Ten Hills, the *Blessing of the Bay*, a bark of thirty tons. In the preceding year, 1629, another bark had been built in the colony,* and in the next two years three more vessels were built by Mr. Cradock on the Mystic, the largest being of two hundred tons, all built at Mr. Cradock's yard, which was probably the site of Mr. J. T. Foster's ship-yard two hundred years later.

There were few vessels built in Medford after these until Thatcher Magoun started his ship-yard in 1802. This was an important event, as the affairs of New England were desperate. Its fisheries and commerce with the West Indies were essential to its existence, as this section could not support itself by agriculture. This West India trade, largely with British possessions, had been forbidden by the navigation laws of England after the American Revolution and, as this was before the advent of manufacturing, there was a prospect that New England would be depopulated. At this juncture a project was formed by Boston merchants to establish a trade in furs between the northwest coast and China, bringing back cargoes of teas, silks and indigo to America and Europe. Many ships from the yards of Magoun and Turner and Briggs made prosperous voyages in this China trade, and also that with Europe when freights were high during the Napoleonic wars.†

* Mass. Col. Rec. I, 404.

† Cf. Morison. Maritime History of Massachusetts, Chapters III and XIII.

During the War of 1812 with Great Britain, Calvin Turner built four privateers, which gave good account of themselves and helped with other privateers to accomplish what success accrued to the American arms. This exerted a large influence on the treaty of peace and in the more favorable treatment of the young republic by European nations.

There was a great improvement in the design of vessels between 1830 and 1840 which greatly increased their speed. As there were ten ship-yards on the Mystic within a distance of a mile, they could study each other's designs, and for this reason these builders contributed largely to the development of this type of ships, which were known as the Medford clipper type of 1830. This improvement in the design of their ships enabled American merchants to skim the cream off the China trade and other lucrative commerce, and gave a great impetus in wealth to the young nation.

Following the discovery of gold in California in 1849 there appeared an urgent demand for ships designed primarily for speed. The freights on supplies for the gold fields were enormous, and it was essential to "make hay while the sun shone." Many famous clipper ships were launched from Medford yards in the next few years.

After the California gold rush had ended the racing type was uneconomical and was modified to provide larger cargo capacity. Later, the Civil War and the advent of the steamship made sailing ships unprofitable, and ship building gradually declined thereafter until, within the memory of many now living who witnessed the event, the last vessel was launched in 1873, the ship *Pilgrim*.

In a previous series of articles in the MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER, now collected in a volume, I have given, as far as possible, a record of the ships built here and have tried to show what part the Medford ship builders contributed to this important development.

—HALL GLEASON.

WASHINGTON HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY.

THE Washington Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, deserves a place in history. Here, however, is a fragment of its records that gives a glimpse of its doings in the days when the young men of Medford "ran with the machine."

That the company was a real fire company, not just a good-time association, is shown by an entry in the records of February 1, 1875, when there was read a letter of thanks from Malden for timely assistance at the burning of a school there in January.

At the April meeting it was voted to attend the centennial celebration of the battle of Lexington and Concord, and an assessment of three dollars was made on each member.

At the May meeting three absent members were fined one dollar apiece, and the April 19th committee, Walter Bates, Nicholas White and Charles H. Marks, made its report, which in part follows:—

The company embarked after six o'clock A.M. in the barge "Belle" of Medford, propelled by six horses, which made a fine appearance, together with a supply wagon in the rear carrying rations for the company consisting of the best the market could afford, taking up the line of march which was traveled over by Paul Revere one hundred years before, and in view of that fact two members of the company and an engineer of the fire department drank a toast to his memory at Simpson's hotel at midnight, the very hour he rode through the town, when he announced the movements of the British to every Middlesex hamlet, village and farm. The decorations and mementos at Arlington and on both sides of the road to Lexington were grand and magnificent to behold.

Arriving at Lexington, the company called on Sparking Harrington, a past assistant foreman and clerk of the company, then halted at the square in front of the monument and viewed that sacred pile where the bodies

of those noble martyrs were interred whose blood was first shed in the cause of American freedom from the tyrannical rule of British oppression.

The morning being cool and bracing the company made only a brief stay here after partaking of a collation, and some had the fortitude to take the cruelty out of the water by the introduction of a little mountain dew. The company moved to Concord, arriving there in good season to witness the grand display and excitement in the town.

The procession was a very fine sight, more especially the different delegations embracing many venerable old men whose heads were bleached with the snows of many years. The procession being over, the company assembled at their rendezvous at the appointed time minus the captain, who when last seen was riding with a New England farmer towards the historic North Bridge, animated and carried away, no doubt, with the gorgeous scenes of the occasion. The grand senior viewed the company and announced every man hale and hearty, free from scar or scratch, save a boy who was dangerously wounded in the stomach by an overdose of milk punch. The usual remedies having been then applied by one of the members he soon revived and took charge of his team.

After waiting some time the second foreman had taken charge and gave orders to march to Lexington. One member of the company demurred and took strong grounds against this order, proclaiming that it was not fair or just to leave the captain behind, and so excited was he that he challenged any member of the company to a single combat, but being overpowered and conquered by the persuasive language and strong arm of his comrades-in-arms, he gave up in peace and lay down like a lamb. After arriving there the company sat down to a very excellent dinner, to which they did ample justice. In the meantime the captain arrived, took up his position at the table, highly pleased with the scenes and grandeur of the celebration of the day.

LAURA P. PATTERN.

OCTOBER 20, 1869 — FEBRUARY 26, 1934.

A DISTINCT calamity has befallen the Medford Historical Society and The Royall House Association, the Medford High School, the First Parish Church and the whole community through the passing of our friend, co-worker and loyal citizen, Laura P. Patten.

Coming to Medford in the fall of 1897 as a teacher of chemistry in the High School, under the late Lorin L. Dame, Miss Patten at once became an inspiration and a power, and these qualities were manifested in all her later relations.

Of broad vision and definite aim, her influence was not confined to the class-room, but wherever human interest and need called, there Miss Patten gave her sympathy and service.

Attracted by its historical pilgrimages and wishing for further knowledge of Medford, she joined the Medford Historical Society and brought to it the same enthusiasm that marked all her efforts. Her notable aid to the Society on the occasion of the pageant, "On the Banks of the Mistick," will long be gratefully remembered. For thirty-seven fruitful years she gave to the High School and to this community an example of clear thinking and noble effort.

Her work was well done. Her example and influence are a permanent and treasured memory.

The members of the Medford Historical Society wish to record their appreciation of her rare worth, their sorrow in their great loss through her passing, and their joy that the powerful influence for good of Laura P. Patten is our priceless possession.

RUTH D. COOLIDGE, *Chairman.*

HARRY E. WALKER.

CLARA T. GUILD.

[March, 1934.]

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Officers for the Year 1933-1934.

President.

MRS. RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.

Vice-Presidents.

MRS. EMMA M. GRAY.
EVERETT W. STONE.

EDWIN B. ROLLINS.
CHARLES H. PHINNEY.

Recording Secretary.

MARK E. GALLAGHER, JR.

Corresponding Secretary.

THOMAS M. CONNELL.

Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

MISS ELLA L. ALDEN.

Treasurer.

HERBERT M. MARVEL.

Directors.

MRS. HAROLD CHIPMAN.
CHARLES T. DALY.

RICHARD B. COOLIDGE.
EDWARD J. GAFFEY.

Librarian and Curator.

MRS. EMMA M. GRAY.

Assistant Curator.

MRS. JOSEPH D. ROBINSON.

Committees.

House.

EDWARD J. GAFFEY.
E. EARL BLAKELY.

MRS. ARTHUR C. LANE.
MISS MAY SONGSTER.

Genealogy.

RALPH E. PEAK.

MRS. CLARA T. JACKSON.

Program.

MRS. RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.

THOMAS M. CONNELL.

Publication.

PROF. EDWIN B. ROLLINS.
THOMAS M. CONNELL.

JOSEPH C. SMITH.
MRS. LUCY F. SMITH.

Hospitality.

MRS. CHARLES C. MELOON, Chairman.
MISS KATHERINE BAKER.
MRS. GEORGE J. CHISHOLM.
MRS. STELLA W. HOWE.
MRS. CLARA T. JACKSON.
MRS. JOHN W. KENNEDY.
MRS. ARTHUR C. LANE.

MRS. WALTER T. LARKIN.
MRS. JOHN CUNNINGHAM.
MISS HELEN GRAY.
MRS. JOSEPH D. ROBINSON.
MRS. FREDERICK E. SHAW.
MRS. BENJAMIN LITTLEFIELD.
MISS ANNA M. ROBERTS.

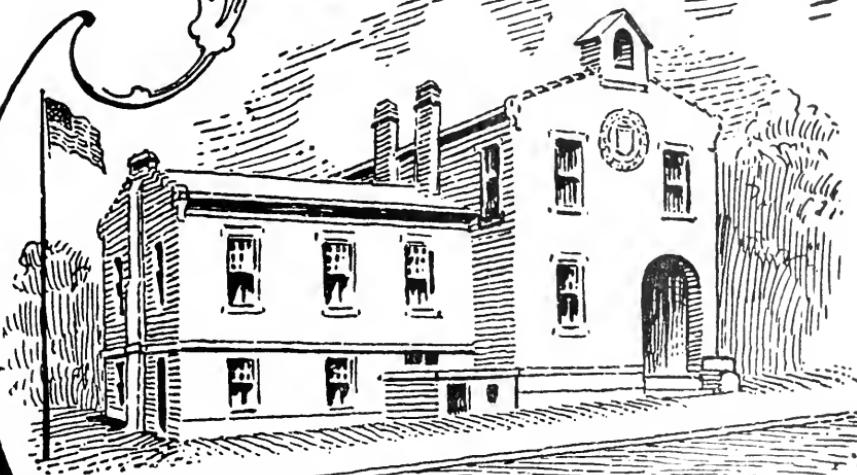




Vol. XXXVII.]

[No. 2.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



June, 1934

PUBLISHED BY THE
MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

F.H.C.W.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
HISTORICAL GUIDE-BOOK OF MEDFORD. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	17
HARRY E. WALKER	33
MARKER FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE MEN	33

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication

Prof. Edwin B. Rollins, Chairman

Joseph C. Smith, Editor Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager Mrs. Lucy F. Smith

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVII.

JUNE, 1934.

No. 2.

HISTORICAL GUIDE-BOOK OF MEDFORD.

This Guide-book has been compiled by Mrs. Coolidge, with Miss Helen T. Wild giving valuable help in the way of verification of dates, etc., and with some assistance from other members.

THE OLDEST ROUTE IN MEDFORD.

From the Somerville line along Main Street to Medford Square and up High Street to the Arlington line.

THE Indians probably blazed the first trails in Medford, and the foremost one was that from Charlestown Neck to the great fishing weirs at the source of the Mystic River. This Indian trail, which for the first few years of the settlement used the ford near the rear of the Armory, became in time the main route from Boston to New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts, as the Cradock Bridge, built in 1636, was for many years the only bridge across the Mystic. This is also the route by which Paul Revere traversed the little hamlet of about one thousand villagers on the night before the battle of Lexington in 1775.

From the top of Winter Hill, on the right spreads an extended view of the winding river and the cities that have settled in its valley.

On the left, on Bow Street, just a stone's throw away from Main Street, is an old house where, during the winter of 1777-8, was quartered the Baroness Reidesel, who had followed her Hessian husband to war. After the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga the British and Hessian forces were sent to Boston to wait for transportation over the ocean. Many of the Hessians were quartered on Walnut (now College) Hill, and received kind treatment, mingled with very human jeers, from the Medford people.

On the right were once two well-known trotting parks, Combination and Mystic. They are practically buried

today and only the names of some of the streets — Willis, Bonner, Golden, and Trott — still bear witness to famous proprietors and turfmen of their day.

On the left were claypits. Tufts Park marks the site of one. Indeed, geologists maintain that all Medford, with the exception of its hills, must have once been part of a great lake in which these deposits of clay were laid down. The making of bricks was one of the important colonial industries of Medford.

Harvard Street, on the left, was the old route to Cambridge, and originally ran through the private grounds of Isaac Royall, the wealthiest colonial resident of Medford. The fine coach of Colonel Royall and the teams of oxen and horses which sought to go to Boston without crossing at Charlestown Ferry must have turned up this street and passed through Cambridge and Dorchester to Boston Neck. The surrounding country was at one time so heavily wooded that Governor Winthrop once lost his way and had to spend a night in the forest within a mile from his own door.

Stearns Avenue, on the left, led to the home of George L. Stearns on College Avenue, a prominent abolitionist who here once entertained John Brown and ran one station of the underground railway. Here, too, he had as guests such prominent men as Ole Bull and Emerson. The house has been torn down and near its site is the magnificent new Cousens Gymnasium of Tufts College. The willows on College Avenue came from sprouts set out in 1864.

At the corner of Main and George Streets, behind the fine little park bought by the city to set off its most famous and beautiful house, is the old **Royall House**. This fine old mansion, with the only slave quarters existing in New England, is an amalgamation of several houses. Probably Governor Winthrop, to whom the court granted in 1631 most of Medford south of the river, had here his farmhouse, though his homestead was in Somerville, in another part of the Ten Hill Farm. The

walls of this six-room house were later enclosed in a more pretentious summer mansion built by Colonel Lidgett, father-in-law of Lieutenant-Governor Usher of New Hampshire, and these walls were again enclosed in the reconstructed mansion which Isaac Royall built in 1732, when, coming from Antigua with thirty slaves or more, he made his home near the Mystic. From the beautiful hand-carved parlors his daughter Penelope went as bride to the Vassall House in Cambridge, and after his son, Isaac the second, became master, he too married from the hospitable old house his daughter Elizabeth, bride to Sir William Pepperell, and Mary, wife of the wealthy merchant Erwin of Boston. By principle a patriot, Royall became, by the accident of time and family, a Tory, was quarantined in Boston with Howe and sailed away to England, to die there of smallpox while he waited hopefully news that he might return home. It is said that the house was threatened with burning by the enraged people of Medford, but that General Stark saved it by taking it over as his headquarters through the siege of Boston. From the windows of the attic stairway Mollie Stark watched the smoke of burning Charlestown at the battle of Bunker Hill and saw the British evacuate Boston. The house has been preserved by the Royall House Association and is the foremost object of historic interest in Medford.

At Summer Street the Middlesex Canal formerly crossed Main Street. South Street was originally Fish House Lane and led to the ford. At the corner of Main and Swan Streets was the **Admiral Vernon Tavern** (1720–1850) where the New Hampshire troops elected John Stark their colonel in 1775. The Blanchard House or Tavern (1752–1833) stood where the present parkway crosses Main Street, and it was in this vicinity that the wounded soldiers were brought after the battle of Bunker Hill to be nursed by the patriotic women of Medford. Foremost among these was Medford's heroine, **Sarah Bradlee Fulton**, who lived in a house almost opposite.

The site of her home is marked. Here, too, she entertained George Washington, who came to thank her for her services to the patriot cause.

On what is now the corner of Riverside Avenue and Main Street stood a third tavern, the Royall Oak (1720-1786). It bore a swinging sign with a crown upon it, and on the return from Lexington the minutemen, enraged at the sight of a crown, so the tradition runs, shot at the emblem of royalty. The sign with its bullet hole is still in the Royall House.

Cradock Bridge, built about 1636 or 1638, was for years the key to the north. In colonial days there was a landing for boats at the northwest corner, and Medford Square became an important center for barter. The small West India ships and the sloops or lighters that carried local produce, rum and bricks down the river to Boston and the Indies found in Medford Square a distributing center for the outlying towns. In ship-building days (1805) the bridge was changed to a draw, and so large were the ocean-going ships built in the yards on the upper side of the bridge that they were sometimes caught in the draw and all traffic had to be detoured by Arlington or the new Malden bridge.

In the square were originally the town pump, and the fine old house of Dr. Simon Tufts, built in 1709, and the **Town Hall**. The early civic life of the community centered about the meeting-house up High Street, which served for church and state together, but in 1824, when the selectmen called the annual town meeting they were refused the use of the meeting-house by the parish and were finally forced to build a hall of their own, in 1834. It is significant that the town hall of Medford sprang from a quarrel, for there has been nothing but dissension about it since the hall of 1834 was razed, about 1913, and a new one planned. The site was finally sold as being too congested for a modern public building, and today the city still occupies temporary offices on the second floor of the building on its first site.

As one turns left on High Street he sees the three banks of Medford, one of which, the Savings Bank, bears an inscription to the effect that it marks the site of the **home of Gov. John Brooks**, seven times governor of Massachusetts. Here he entertained President Monroe July 3, 1817, and Lafayette. Behind this bank, on Bradlee Road, is the old **Garrison House**, the home of Maj. Jonathan Wade, built about 1685.

Beyond, on the right of High Street, are the **three Hall houses**, landmarks of the city. The first has a boulder before it commemorating the fact that it was at this door that Paul Revere thundered as he made his first halt on his memorable trip. The house was then occupied by Capt. Isaac Hall. It was built by Andrew Hall in 1703.

There were, at the end of the eighteenth century, five houses here in a row, all occupied by the Hall family, four of them brothers, and three of the brothers married to three sisters. The one with brick ends, next to that of Isaac Hall, was rebuilt by Ebenezer Hall, grandson of the original Andrew, in 1783, the original house being much older. The third was built by Benjamin Hall, Jr., about 1785, and in the day of his son, Dudley Hall, was the scene of a banquet given by its owner and General Brooks to Lafayette. In what is now the path of Governors Avenue stood the house of Benjamin Hall, Sr., afterwards that of Dr. Swan. This old house with its gambrel roof has been moved to Mystic Avenue, where it still stands. The fifth Hall house stood where the telephone building now stands and was the home of Richard Hall. On the other side of the road, next the river, were their tanneries, and their business acumen made Medford a trading center. Later, a shipyard succeeded the tanyard.

On Governors Avenue today stands the building of the **Medford Historical Society**, built in 1916, with an excellent collection of Indian and Civil War and shipbuilding relics and a fine library. To geologists the

avenue is notable by reason of a vein of diabase which runs in a great dyke through the city, and by its crumbling causes frequent landslides. The hill, called Pasture Hill, once sloped to the river, with a sandy beach along which ran the "varge way," or road.

The **Armory** was the gift to the city of Gen. Samuel C. Lawrence, its first mayor, and houses a large collection of rare and valuable prints and pictures. The Lawrence Light Guard was organized in 1854 as Company E, Fifth Regiment, and has a noteworthy record of service. On April 18, 1861, in response to Lincoln's first call for volunteers, Daniel Lawrence covered almost the identical route of Paul Revere and gave the captains of the regiment marching orders under his brother, Col. Samuel C. Lawrence. The same Lawrence Light Guard maintained the military reputation of the city in its service in the Spanish and World Wars.

On the right is a boulder with a bas-relief representing the march of **Medford's fifty-nine minutemen**, under Capt. Isaac Hall, to Lexington. Behind it is the Children's Library, given the city by Mrs. Samuel C. Lawrence in memory of her husband.

Just adjacent is the **Medford Public Library**, built as a mansion house by Medford's first great ship-builder, Thatcher Magoun, and presented by his son, Thatcher Magoun, to the city as a library in 1875. The library was built about 1835, when Mr. Magoun retired from his ship-building to this fine home, which was said to have been built to suggest a ship. The library has many valuable books, autographed letters of George Washington, and portraits of the two Magouns and of General Brooks. The rounded front walls are about one and one-half feet thick. Daniel Webster called here once, some time before 1852.

On the left side the road from the ford and varge way climbed to the street, which was possibly called High Street for this reason. St. Joseph's Church, on the left, was built about 1900. The home for the nuns

next it was once the manor house of Thatcher Magoun the second, and had beautiful trees and terraced gardens.

The handsome house on the right next the library was built by Samuel Gray about 1803. It was said to be a copy of a colonial house in Salem, constructed by a Salem builder, assisted by carpenters from the ship-yards. It was occupied at one time by William Gray, the famous Boston ship merchant, and at another by Charles S. Sargent, the famous botanist, so intimately associated with the Arnold Arboretum.

Next on the right is the brick-stucco house of John Angier. His wife, Abby Adams, was the favorite niece of John Quincy Adams, who visited her here and planted on the grounds a Scotch laburnum and an English oak, brought as small cuttings from Europe. The house was for years the home of Mr. Eleazer Boynton.

At the corner of Powderhouse Road is the **parsonage** of the First Parish, Unitarian, built by Parson Osgood in 1785. Parson Osgood was minister of the parish from 1774 to 1822, and his diary, kept throughout the course of his ministry and still in the Medford Public Library, covers the Revolution and notes the **visit of Washington** to the town in October, 1789.

This visit was made to General Brooks—his personal friend, who served throughout the Revolution at his side—during Washington's tour of the states as President. General Brooks lived at that time in the eastern half of an old house standing to the left of the church. The house on the site has an historical marker.

The church is itself the fifth of the First Parish in Medford and the third on this site. It owns valuable silver, now in the Art Museum in Boston, and many fine old books. Behind the church stood the third school-house in town, built of brick, 1795–1846.

On the left stands the Christian Science Church, converted from the James W. Tufts mansion, and next it the Grace Episcopal Church, one of the first churches designed by Richardson, builder of Trinity Church, Bos-

ton. It was largely the gift of Mrs. Gorham Brooks in 1868. On the same site once stood a fashionable girls' school.

Winthrop Square had formerly the home of Parson Turell, from which he could see the spire of the second meeting-house down the road to his right. Across Winthrop Street is the Medford Home for the Aged, for many years the Swan homestead. Part of the building dates back to 1689.

As we go up High Street we see on the left the sites of the **first schoolhouse** in Medford, built in 1734, twenty by twenty-four feet, and the **second church**, built in 1727, fifty-two by thirty-eight feet and thirty-three feet high, close beside the brook. The brook itself, now covered on the right-hand side of the road with a new road, was called Meeting-house Brook and was almost in the center of the town. It had two milldams on its upper course.

The small white house set in from the road on the right is on the site of the old Willis Tavern (1692), where a teamster might pause before the hard uphill climb over what bore the name of Marm Simonds Hill, on account of a school kept by two Misses Simonds in 1823 in the little yellow house still standing on the right. It is said that they charged twelve cents a week for tuition.

Across the road from Marm Simonds' old yellow house, still fronted with lilacs, is the fine old yellow house of Edmund T. Hastings, merchant, built in 1840 for his summer home. The house still holds its fine setting of meadow and hill, though the heights of Rock Hill in behind it have been partitioned off into small modern house lots. The house is still owned and occupied by a member of the family.

Rock Hill was famous in early days as an Indian outlook, for there the Sachem **Nanepashemet** had a small wigwam from which he could look out over the Mystic and detect the coming of enemies. On the broad meadows below the Hastings House once were erected annually

the fishing stages of the Indians, who came from all around to fish during the annual spring rush of alewives up stream.

On the right of Marm Simonds Hill stands another old house, called once the Hillman House, which marks the site of the **first meeting-house** in Medford. A sign reads as follows:—

SITE OF THE FIRST MEETING-HOUSE IN MEDFORD

1696-1726

30 feet long, 27 feet wide and 16 feet high

Rev. Benjamin Woodbridge, First Minister

Behind the house is a circular stone once used as a step for the little church. With this first church on the hill and the second near the brook, the name of Meeting-house Brook has a double significance.

Woburn Street at the right was the old road to Woburn, probably following an Indian trail. Winthrop Street did not then exist. At the corner of Woburn and High stands the fine old **Jonathan Brooks** home-stead. The little ell in the rear was the original house and was probably built about 1692; the main building is later in date. The house was standing when Paul Revere rode by, and one tradition in the family has it that John Hancock slept in the upper chamber after his escape from Lexington.

The house on the opposite corner is as old and perhaps older, as it was probably the residence of one of the first deacons of the church, John Bradshaw. Here the grandfather of John Hancock doubtless spent his Sabbaths in this house of great oaken beams when he came out to supply the pulpit before a regularly ordained minister was chosen. Inside the old chimney is still a door where hams might be hung to be smoked from the generous fire below. It is believed that this was built by Jeduthah Richardson.

Down Hastings Lane the heavy oxcarts and country wagons plodded from Woburn and the back country to the landing on the river at the end of the lane. There the river lighters picked up the farm produce and floated it down the river on the ebb tide to Boston, along with Medford bricks and rum.

The old white house with brick ends on the right at the brow of the hill, occupied by Dr. Lincoln, was occupied by Medford's first historian, Rev. Charles Brooks, who in addition was a great student of the school system and had much to do in introducing the Prussian graded school idea upon the little red schoolhouse basis of New England. On Mystic Street, a few rods to the right, stands the house built by John Pierpont, a pastor of the first parish and ancestor of John Pierpont Morgan.

The streets of West Medford, especially Mystic and Allston, owe much to the generosity of Edmund T. Hastings and Samuel Teel, Jr., for the planting of the beautiful elms which still arch over their traffic. Two fine modern schools, the Brooks and the Lewis Hobbs Junior High, stand on the left, and beyond them the Congregational Church. The old **Teel homestead**, on land bought by the original Teel of the Brookses in 1775, is still a landmark for West Medford in its fine outlines and grace of finish.

Canal Street, further on to the left, dating back to 1680, is the street that led to the locks of the Middlesex Canal in West Medford. Here there was also a generous tavern for canal boat men. The Middlesex Canal has left its impress in almost every city along its route by one street named Canal. On the right of Canal is a large house built in 1812 for the town's almshouse; it was remodelled in 1854 into Mystic Mansion of Mystic Hall Seminary, a fashionable school for girls.

The West Medford Railroad Station brings to our attention the fact that the Boston and Lowell Railroad was the first in New England to carry passengers, and that the first train ran from Lowell to Boston June 24,

1835. The road was built with painstaking care, with granite walls underlying the rails on the right track from Boston to Lowell, and with granite ties throughout. The granite did not wear out, but the rolling-stock did, and it became necessary to take up all the granite ties and replace them with wood. The long granite walls under the roadbed, however, are still in place. The road was not chartered by the legislature until after a stiff opposition from the Middlesex Canal proprietors, who maintained the "passengers are now carried at all hours as rapidly and safely as they are anywhere in the world." This speed was four miles an hour.

The railroad station itself was built at a time when an attempt was made to separate West Medford from the rest of the city and call it Brooks. Many of the stones of the building were contributed by individuals, and geological specimens of many kinds may be found in its walls, as well as a rude bust that suggests Washington.

This part of the town was formerly all owned by the Brooks family and many beautiful acres are still in its possession. Grove Street, on the right, formerly called the Road Through the Woods, was one of the oldest roads in the town. It originally was continued to the river, where there were a road to Cambridge and a corn mill on the Mystic.

Sagamore Avenue should be followed to the Indian monument there erected to **Sagamore John**. Sagamore Avenue itself was the direct line of the Middlesex Canal, but this region was formerly a prosperous Indian village. The story of Mourt, who gave the account of a Pilgrim trading exploration to the north, has always been interpreted as referring to a stockaded village at about this point. The land near the well-known fish weirs at the mouth of the lake was held in high value by the Indians, and early deeds retain the rights of the Squa Sachem, who succeeded her husband, Nanepashemet, as ruler over the tribe in Medford, to the ownership of these valuable rights. Francis Brooks, in excavations near

this site in 1882, discovered Indian bones, buried mostly in sitting posture, and arrowheads are still unearthed by the plow on the old Brooks estate.

The beautiful Mystic Valley Parkway swings out a little further to the right and runs along the lakes over land once followed by the Middlesex Canal and other land donated by the Brooks family. About a mile farther on this road is preserved a section of the bed of the Middlesex Canal.

The Merrimac River, geologists declare, once flowed through these lakes, but the glacial age threw athwart its path a great dam which forced the river to turn its present right angle to the sea. Today they are the center of skating, boating and swimming, and are a joy of beauty, now as doubtless in the days of the Indians, whose name Missituck seems to have meant great river and great lake.

With the bridge over the Mystic which forms the division between Medford and Arlington this route ends. This was called of old the Weir Bridge, being the place where the Indians and the colonists who succeeded them trapped the migrant alewives and other fish. They were not only foodstuff, but fertilizer, and in colonial days a source of barter. Occasionally even today fish straggle up the river when the dam is open at Cradock Bridge, but their chief memorial is in the name of Alewife Brook.

SALEM STREET.

SALEM Street was one of the first streets of Medford, known as the Salem Path. It has suffered more at the hands of time than the other old streets of Medford. Seventy years ago it was shaded by magnificent elms, now all gone.

At the right, almost opposite the Medford Theatre, was once the "great barn," doubtless the center of Cradock's early enterprise. Where his house was is still the contention of Medford historians. Doubtless nearby was

the enclosure which was to be stocked with deer to make of Matthew Cradock's home a gentleman's estate.

On the left, on the site of the theatre, was a famous bakery of Medford, where were made the hard Medford crackers which traveled around the world in Medford ships together with Medford rum. At the corner of Ashland Street stood the home of Lydia Maria Child, a famous authoress in her day, friend of prominent authors and abolitionists.

Next River Street, once known as Dead Man's Alley, is the **old burying ground**. This is the oldest cemetery in Medford and here lie many of those who fought at Lexington, their graves marked. In the center is the monument to Governor Brooks, and near it the boulder of New Hampshire granite marking the final resting place of the New Hampshire minutemen who came from their homes to fight beside their comrades of Massachusetts.

Near the wall on the right is the grave of Sarah Bradlee Fulton, Medford's most famous woman, who carried a message for Washington into beleaguered Boston, walking in and out of Charlestown, rowing across the river and back, and coming to her home before day broke. Washington visited her at her home on Main Street in recognition of her heroism. There are many interesting stones in the old burying ground and inscriptions on family tombs. The stone marking the tomb of Dr. Simon Tufts on the right of the entrance is especially interesting as a comment on Medford enterprise. The first Simon, who taught Governor Brooks the profession of medicine, was family physician and friend of Isaac Royall. One of his sons died at Surinam, another at the Cape of Good Hope.

Medford Common formerly was crossed by Gravelly Brook, one of the most troublesome of Medford to the city engineer, and a bridge was early built across it at Salem Street. The brook has, however, disappeared beneath the common, and the road which formerly led from the No Man's Friend landing has been altered to Cross

Street on the right. This street leads to the second of Medford's cemeteries, the Cross Street. Here lie buried many ship-building mechanics who were laid to rest within hearing of the

“ Sound of hammers, blow on blow,
Knocking away the shores and spurs.”

At the corner of Fountain Street was formerly the old Fountain House, one of Medford's oldest taverns.

Fulton Street was the continuation of the road from No Man's Friend landing to the wood-lots of the town of Charlestown. Many loads of wood must have been hauled behind slow-plodding oxen down this road to the landing at the river.

The little white house on the left is said to have been built by Peter Tufts of the Cradock House on Riverside Avenue for his son.

In 1840 there were only two houses between Hadley Place and Malden line, and on the other side not more than half a dozen between the Fountain House and Malden. As late as 1870 there were swamps on each side of the street between Otis and Spring Street, and the children used to run “around the bend” because it was so lonesome. A drainage system reclaimed this land, which is now thickly populated.

THE MIDDLESEX CANAL.

THE Middlesex Canal had its route through Medford from 1803 to 1852, when the charter of the corporation was surrendered. The days of the canal, which closely paralleled those of ship-building, were some of the most picturesque of Medford. Horses dragged passenger boats along the canal at four miles an hour, and teams of oxen trudged along with loads of lumber for the ship-yards at about two miles an hour.

The canal entered Medford from Somerville close to the river, separated only so far from its course that a teamster on the turnpike could with one of his long whips touch the water of the river on the one side and the water

of the canal on the other. Mystic Avenue in those days was a turnpike, opened in 1803 and a toll road until 1867, and apparently profitable, though the encroachments of the river made constant repairs necessary.

From this close proximity to the river at the Somerville line the canal swung westward toward Main Street, passing behind what is now the Hancock School (where there are still traces of it) close to a little red brick building off Hancock Court once famous as Peck's hat factory, where they made the old-fashioned beaver hats. Daniel Webster is said to have bought hats made in this shop, but the coming of the new silk hats put the factory out of business. One branch of the canal ran behind Teel's factory to the river. At Summer Street the canal crossed Main Street under a bridge and ran along Summer, near the course of West Street and across the marshes toward Boston Avenue. Here at almost the exact site of the present Boston Avenue bridge it crossed the river on an aqueduct. There was a lock close beside, and a tavern for the boatmen.

From Boston Avenue the canal swung down the present Sagamore Avenue, over-arched in the old days by a charming granite bridge. It then ran near the Mystic Lakes, parallel to the Boston and Maine Railroad, whose competition ultimately was the cause of its death.

The best idea of its construction can be obtained on the boulevard just beyond the Medford line, where the old course has been saved. A boulder marks the site, and a walk to the end of the path shows the granite blocks upon which was built the aqueduct that carried the canal to the further Winchester shore.

FOREST STREET.

FOREST Street was a turnpike road to Andover and was opened in 1805. It runs roughly parallel to the old Fulton Street route to Stoneham, and for that or some other reason was not very profitable. It was offered for sale in 1828, and as no buyers appeared it became a public road in 1831. It is said that often herds

of sheep or cows were driven down the pike into Medford Square.

On the left is the Medford High School, with the Vocational School at its southern end. The original central building was opened in 1897 and was considered a rank extravagance in size. The brown sandstone trimmings were given by General Lawrence, and the pictures and statuary have been the gifts of alumni and graduating classes. In front of the school is a war memorial for the soldiers and sailors of Medford in the World War.

On the right side, at the corner of Webster Street, is a marker recently placed in honor of the New Hampshire soldiers who in 1775 came down from their neighboring colony to fight beside the minutemen of Massachusetts. They were quartered in the fields here, which were then open meadows, bordered by the ubiquitous claypits of Medford. From this camp they marched to Bunker Hill, and many of them were borne back to the camp dead or wounded. Nursed by Sarah Bradlee Fulton and the Medford women, some wounded recovered, but some forty-five were buried together on the north side of the present Water Street, whence their bones were removed to the old Salem Street Cemetery.

Forest Street is a fine street, beautifully arched with elms, many of them planted by Mr. Turell Tufts. At its end it runs into Roosevelt Circle, named in honor of "T. R." and thence joins the Fellsway on the way to Stoneham and Andover. At the left, up Border Road, rises Pine Hill, from which a fine view can be obtained. This portion of the Fells was once the property of Elizur Wright, who had the vision to foresee the value to the state of the great recreational tract of forest. Through his initiative, largely, the land was finally secured by the state and these acres were his own contribution to the cause. This is one of the best approaches to the Fells. About half a mile on the left of the Fellsway is a rock formation called the Old Man of the Fells.

(To be continued in September issue.)

HARRY E. WALKER.

RESOLVED, that by the death of Harry E. Walker the Medford Historical Society has lost one of its most valued members. Not only was Mr. Walker's knowledge of general history exceptional, but his interest was active in the work of the local Society, and to it he devoted many hours of service from his busy life. For several years he served the Society as Vice-President, and as chairman of the Publication Committee.

In a day when scholarship and willingness to serve a cause without emolument and with little recognition become increasingly rare, the Medford Historical Society expresses its appreciation of the work and character of Harry E. Walker, and extends to his wife and friends its share in the sympathy of the community.

RUTH D. COOLIDGE.
EVERETT W. STONE.
EDWIN B. ROLLINS.

MARKER FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE MEN.

AN impressive feature of the Patriots' Day observance in Medford was the dedication and unveiling of a historical marker, erected on the lawn of the home of Charles E. Giles on Forest Street, near Water Street, to distinguish the locality where the soldiers of New Hampshire under General Stark were encamped during the period between April, 1775, and April, 1776.

The exercises were conducted by the Medford Historical Society, which erected the temporary wooden marker which it is hoped to replace with a more permanent memorial at a later date.

Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge, President of the Society, was in charge of the exercises. The speakers were Mrs. Archibald C. Jordan of Winchester, State President of the New Hampshire Daughters, who gave an address on the career of General Stark, and Everett W. Stone, who

read an address prepared by Miss Helen T. Wild, who was unable to be present.

The exercises opened with the singing of "America" by a double quartet from the high school, led by a trumpeter from the school band.

The tablet was unveiled by Mrs. Ellen L. Tisdale and Mrs. Arthur C. Lane, both members of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Tisdale, a lineal descendant of Sarah Bradlee Fulton, wore the dress worn at Sarah Bradlee's wedding in 1762. Mrs. Lane also wore a dress from the treasure chest of her family, it having been worn by one of her great-great-grandmothers during the revolutionary period.

At the conclusion of the exercises the high school singers and the trumpeter rendered "Yankee Doodle."

The lettering on the tablet was done by Clarence K. Brayton, a senior in the high school, whose great-great-great-grandfather was Captain Allison, an officer on the staff of General Stark.

The tablet reads as follows:

CAMP SITE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SOLDIERS
APRIL, 1775, TO APRIL, 1776

IN THIS VICINITY GENERAL JOHN STARK'S TROOPS
ENCAMPED DURING THE SIEGE OF BOSTON.
WHILE HERE THEY FOUGHT AT BUNKER HILL
AND AT DORCHESTER HEIGHTS, AND LATER
DEPARTED FOR SERVICE IN NEW YORK

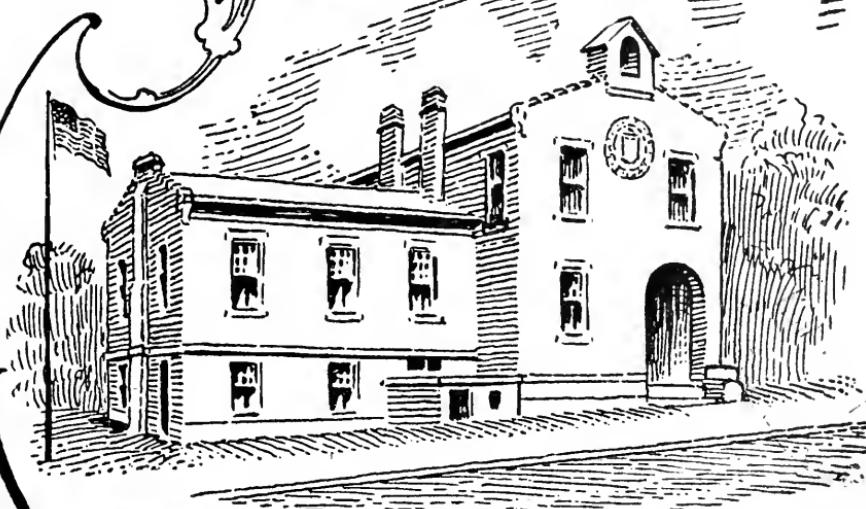
Erected in their honor by MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
APRIL 19, 1934



Vol. XXXVII.]

[No. 3.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



September, 1934

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
HISTORICAL GUIDE-BOOK OF MEDFORD. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	35
A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF MEDFORD AS A TOWN. <i>Ruth Dame Coolidge</i>	51
MRS. SARAH WHARTON HALLOWELL	52

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.

For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication

Prof. Edwin B. Rollins, Chairman

Joseph C. Smith, Editor

Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge

Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager

Mrs. Lucy F. Smith

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVII.

SEPTEMBER, 1934.

No. 3.

HISTORICAL GUIDE-BOOK OF MEDFORD.

This Guide-book has been compiled by Mrs. Coolidge, with Miss Helen T. Wild giving valuable help in the way of verification of dates, etc., and with some assistance from other members.

(Continued from MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER, June, 1934.)

THE WOBURN ROADS.

Woburn Street from High, to Winthrop Street, to Symmes Corner in Winchester, and Grove Street to High.

ONE of the oldest roads of Medford, after Main, High and Salem, was probably the high road to Woburn. Today Winthrop Street is the easier route, but this road was not constructed until about the middle of the nineteenth century on land purchased by the town for the purpose, so that the street was long called Purchase Street. The nearest route to Woburn from the square before that day was up Marm Simonds Hill and past the "great rock on Oborne rode," along the winding road that still tells in its name the story of its purpose.

At the corner of High and Woburn, on the right, used to stand the home of J. Wyman, who drove the stage coach to and fro from Medford to Boston in the early days of the nineteenth century. His house has long since followed his stage. Only his name is left at Wyman Street.

Beyond Wyman Street, on the left, was built the first schoolhouse in the west end of the town in 1829, at a cost of \$385.00. Within three years, however, this schoolhouse went further west to Canal Street, near the Medford Almshouse. There, in its impressive proportions of eighteen by twenty-four feet, it stood for some forty years until the famous tornado of August 22, 1851, swept it across the brook, mowing down a great chestnut tree as with a scythe, and left the children who were to attend

school three days later without a school. Fortunately, a new school was under way at the corner of Brooks and Irving Streets.

Almost opposite this school was for years the Sarah Fuller School for the deaf, where younger children first began the study of lip reading. The school was incorporated later with the Horace Mann School in Boston, and the building has been remodelled as a private residence. A little colony of Cape Cod cottages and houses on old models would almost seem to reproduce the olden days of Medford, but there are no houses standing on this road now that are not new development, with the exception of the Smith Farm, now a part of the riding school.

Playstead Road was laid out by the Brooks family that the western portion of the town might have a more direct and accessible road to the cemetery.

Oak Grove Cemetery was opened in 1853. The town had outgrown the old Salem-street Burying Ground and the later one at Cross Street, and the development of Mount Auburn had inspired in Medford the desire for a naturally beautiful and remote resting place for their dead. Additional land has been purchased which extends the cemetery down into the lower land at the south. There are monuments erected here to the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1861 and a large monument to the heroes of the Spanish War. In honor of the veterans of the world war is a great flagpole, at whose base on every Memorial Day are exercises similar to those at the Civil War and the Spanish War shrines.

At the cemetery, Woburn Street is merged in Winthrop Street. At the right, almost at the junction of the roads, is the Whitmore Brook entrance to the Middlesex Fells. Whitmore Brook is now but a rill, but at one time there was a saw mill across its course just where the Fells road cuts its way through a little hill, which was the mill-dam. Whoever has the curiosity to proceed up the Fells road and push through the little openings to

the left into an open pasture will find a strange freak of nature, a small cedar tree rooted and growing on the top of a bare rock. The tree is estimated to be four hundred years old.

Winthrop Street was also the route selected for another purpose. In 1847 the Medford Branch Railroad was surveyed and partly graded for an extension to Stoneham, passing by Sugar Loaf Hill and what is now the City Infirmary. Its route may still be traced in various places, and many mistake the bed of water that lies beside the raised roadbed for the Middlesex Canal. The line was never extended to Medford Square and the work was suddenly stopped.

Shortly beyond the cemetery we pass into Winchester, though all this land was part of Medford until 1850, when the court granted it to the new town of Winchester. As this land until 1754 belonged to Charlestown it has been part of three townships. Part of this Winthrop Street section of Winchester may be said to be again returning to Medford jurisdiction, for the hilltops of soft earth have been removed bodily to fill in the approach to the new bridge across the Mystic at Harvard Street.

At Symmes Corner once stood the birthplace of Gov. John Brooks, who though born in what was at the time Charlestown, is accounted Medford's most prominent citizen. The house has been torn down, but a short account of General Brooks is given here as an introduction to the Brooks estates on Grove Street. The original Thomas Brooks of Concord bought an enormous freehold from the heirs of Cradock in 1660, and for almost three centuries much of this estate has remained in the Brooks family. John Brooks, seven times governor of Massachusetts and close friend and comrade of Washington, is the most famous of the family. A shaft marks his grave in the old Salem Street Cemetery. He studied medicine in Medford under Dr. Simon Tufts, marched from Reading, where he was then practicing, to Lexington, went from the birth of his first child, June 16, 1775,

to Bunker Hill, and thereafter followed the fortunes of Washington throughout the war. His portrait is in the Boston Art Museum and a copy is in the Medford Public Library.

From Symmes Corner to High Street, West Medford, runs Grove Street, which has sometimes been considered a private road for the Brooks estates, as all the Medford members of the family resided along its sides or at its terminals at Symmes Corner or High Street. Grove Street, however, was an old highway to Woburn, being known as the Road Through the Woods. Grove Street may be said to be by far the most beautiful road in Medford, with its glimpses of the flashing Mystic Lakes on the one side and the beautifully varied Brooks estates on the other. The land is strongly marked by glacial action, and has several pothole lakes of glacial origin, including Brooks Pond, called Slow Pond on the old records, which Mr. Shepherd Brooks converted from a temporary pond of the spring into the beautiful permanent pond of the all year round.

From the same Thomas Brooks who bought the original domain, on a collateral line through Caleb, who lived at High Street, near Grove, through Samuel and his son Samuel, came Edward, another Brooks of Revolutionary fame. The second Samuel lived in a home on our left as we come from Winchester, behind the old white wall still standing, built by Pomp, a slave, about 1765 from bricks of his own make. Opposite this house, on the other side of the road, lived his son Edward, a minister, of rather too liberal views for the day. When the church bells rang the alarm for Lexington, Edward was at home without a parish and he proceeded at once to the battle, wearing his fullbottomed wig and carrying a musket. His son, Peter C. Brooks, could see from the housetop the sunlight glancing on the British bayonets on the Menotomy (Arlington) road. How many men the Reverend Edward killed is not known, but he brought home as prisoner a British officer, Lieutenant Gould of the

King's Own, wounded in the heel at Concord Bridge, who remained with his family as guest and prisoner until his parole.

Abigail Brooks, the wife of the minister, was hospitable to her own patriots as well, for after the battle of Lexington, as the weary soldiers strayed back home from the battle, she served them under the elm tree at her gate with chocolate in a great iron pot. Edward served afterwards as chaplain on the frigate Hancock, was captured and suffered such hardships that he returned a broken man, to die shortly after and leave his wife to bring up their four children. She was descended herself from John Cotton, the famous Puritan divine, and among her descendants were Phillips Brooks and his brothers. Her son, Peter C. Brooks, walking in and out of Boston every day to business, was one of the early builders of the insurance business and accumulated one of the greatest fortunes of the day. He built a mansion on the right of the road in 1802, with a most beautiful garden, an artificial pond and magnificent trees. Through his estate, under a graceful arched bridge, passed the Middlesex Canal. History tells us that July 3, 1817, Peter C. Brooks entertained President James Monroe with "an elegant collation" in his grounds here. This estate, however, was sold to a real estate company in 1912 and the present development is on the grounds.

Two great-grandsons of Edward Brooks, Peter Chardon and Shepherd, built the two stately residences that now crown the two hills above Brooks (Slow) Pond.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Shepherd Brooks, the present owner of half the estate, the grounds are to be given for a bird sanctuary and thus preserved in their present beautiful form.

On the hilltop where is the gray stone home of Peter C. Brooks was once (it is believed from Mourt's Relation) the wigwam of Nanepashemet, the Indian sachem, where in 1619 he was killed by his enemies from Maine, the Tarrentines. Below the house, on the shores of the pond,

the Pageant of the Mystic was enacted in 1930 as the city's celebration of the three hundredth year of its existence. The old gray farmhouse on the other side of the road, as well as part of the foundations of the houses, was built from granite taken from the aqueduct of the Middlesex Canal over to the Winchester shore. This was destroyed when, in about 1865, an ice-jam, forced against the aqueduct, so raised the waters of Bacon's Pond that cellars of homes in Winchester were flooded, and the aqueduct was blown up with dynamite.

MIDDLESEX FELLS.

THE Middlesex Fells is a park reservation of over two thousand acres. It has rocks near the Rams-head Tower that are some of the oldest in New England, and its hills are strewn with boulders that mark the glacial age, while the handwriting of the ice is traced on the top of Pine Hill. But apart from any geological interest it is a most delightful playground for the multitude.

In the seventeenth century it was part of Charlestown, and was used for woodlots, and in the nineteenth century many trees were still hauled from its depths for use in the ship-yards. There were also quarries, especially one on the side of Pine Hill, from which much of the granite was hauled for reinforcing the river wall at the northwest of Cradock Bridge. A very fine gravel, made from the Medford granite or diabase, was extensively used for garden paths and sidewalks, and is widely known as "Pasture Hill gravel."

The earliest exploration of the Fells was made by Governor Winthrop who, on February 7, 1632, crossing the ford at Mystic, traveled to the northeast until he came to "a very great pond, having in the midst an island of about one acre . . . and the pond had divers small rocks standing up here and there in it, which they therefore called Spot Pond."

From Pine Hill, southwesterly, there are scattered traces of a settlement once made by Scotch-Irish who about 1719 settled in this quarter and built their homes and strong stonewalls about their bounds. These have long since gone, and for years all this wooded section was divided into woodlots of various Medford families.

Toward the end of the nineteenth century Elizur Wright, nationally known for his pioneer work with insurance, started a movement to have this whole woodland territory preserved to the state. This was finally done in 1894.

Maps of the trails and paths including the location of the Silver Mine, Bears' Den and other sites of interest may be obtained from the Metropolitan Park Police at the station on the Fellsway.

Easy access to the whole district may be had from the Fellsway and from South Border Road, by those in automobiles, and for pedestrians by Lawrence Road from Winthrop Street or Governors Avenue.

A right of way off Lincoln Road leads to the site of an old sawmill, whose dam is still to be seen. Whitmore Brook Road from Winthrop Street leads to the site of another dam.

It is sometimes the regret of assessors that so much of the territory of Medford is in parks which yield no revenue. The pleasure-seekers of Medford and the nature lovers have no such regrets as to the Middlesex Fells.

TUFTS COLLEGE.

COLLEGE Hill, once called Walnut Hill on account of its crown of walnut trees, has a history that runs beyond that of the college which now makes it the most prominent hill in Medford. On this hill, geologically a drumlin, were quartered during the winter of 1777–8 the Hessian troops sent to Boston after their defeat under Burgoyne at Saratoga to wait for ships to convoy them home. But ships were scarce in those days and perhaps

the colonists were none too anxious to free these captives of theirs who, though bound by parole themselves, might release, on their return, new forces for the fighting strength of the British army.

At all events, the Hessians spent on the exposed summit of Walnut Hill a very cold winter. To keep their campfires going they burned all the walnuts that had given the hill its name. The Baroness Reidesel, who had accompanied to this new world her husband, the commander of the Hessians, was fortunate enough to have a roof over her head in the old house on Bow Street. Romance says that she concealed the colors of the Germans among her baggage and brought them safe from the battlefield.

The rank and file of the army, however, endured much hardship in makeshift lodgings throughout the winter, and bore withal the taunt of "lobsterbacks" from the people of the community.

In spite of hardships, some of the Hessians elected to remain in this new country, even after ships had been procured to deport the troops. One of them, Thomas Huffmaster, lived in his adopted town, surviving years of war and change only to be killed by the famous tornado that swept through West Medford August 23, 1851.

After the time of the Hessians the hill became part of the farm of Charles Tufts of Somerville, a descendant of that Peter Tufts who built the so-called Cradock House on Riverside Avenue. This far-sighted man saw in the hill a place whereon to "set a light," and this he accomplished by his gift of the land in 1851 to the Universalist Church, which was then seeking the best available site for a college.

Today the buildings and grounds of Tufts College are among the outstanding sights of Medford. Around old Ballou Hall in the center, built in 1853, have sprung up the various dormitories and Goddard Chapel with its tower and chimes. Barnum Museum was given by the famous P. T. Barnum, and contains the stuffed hide of Jumbo,

the largest elephant in captivity, whose size added a word to the English vocabulary. The library was the gift of Carnegie.

Beside the college rises a reservoir, built as part of the Mystic Water Works. A promenade around it commands a far view of the cities, river valley and Middlesex Fells. A steady succession of new dormitories and other buildings, the addition of Cousens Gymnasium and the imposing stairway on the east, have enriched year by year the bare hilltop donated by Charles Tufts some eighty years ago.

MEDFORD HILLSIDE.

MOST of the development south of the Mystic and between Main and Auburn Streets is of recent growth, but the whole section has an interesting story. In 1637 this was part of a wide tract belonging to the town of Charlestown and was divided into rights of pasturage. A large committee was chosen to make equitable division, or in the old wording, "to stint the common," or to determine the number of cow commons that one hundred and thirteen inhabitants should have, reserving definite acres for the "milch cows, working cattle, goats and calves." In 1685 Medford, next the river, was divided into three and a half acres for each cow, and "rangeways" were laid out for easy access to these pastures. One rangeway was not preserved, but two still exist today in Winthrop and North Streets. When this part of Medford was added to the town from the precincts of Charlestown the town had to pay Charlestown for the firewood, as there was still quite a forest standing. Later there were claypits and brickyards over much of the area.

At the foot of Capen Street were found Indian remains, and an old map of 1685 shows wigwams of Sagamore John pitched by Alewife Brook. Here, too, is the place where Governor Winthrop is believed to have spent a

night in the forest when, in a rain, he crept into an Indian wigwam for shelter, but barricaded it against an Indian squaw who wished to share its protection with him. Doubtless Puritan propriety was satisfied.

South Street is the most interesting historically. The eastern end was called Fish House Lane and led to the ford. At the end of Walnut Street were the shipyards of James Ford where twenty-nine ships were launched. At Curtis Street Paul Curtis established a yard in 1839 with twenty-seven ships to his credit, and on the other side of Winthrop Bridge (built in 1857 and rebuilt in 1925) was the yard of Stetson, with thirty-two ships between 1833 and 1835. In 1833 another yard was started at Auburn Street near the present railroad tracks where fifty-three ships were built, and across the river, at the foot of Hastings Lane, was a yard for the building of lighters. Along South Street still stand the dignified and substantial homes of ship builders and workers.

Summer Street was built largely on the towpath of the Middlesex Canal. Touro Avenue was named after a wealthy and influential Hebrew. The real development of the rest of the hillside came about 1872, when Josiah Quincy formed an association called the Quincy Associates to encourage the acquisition of homes of moderate cost, in a method somewhat similar to our coöperative banks of today.

One building at the foot of Capen Street often excites curiosity. It is the brick building once used for the Charlestown water works in connection with the water supply from Upper Mystic. The dam was built in 1863 between the upper and lower ponds for the Charlestown water supply, and the reservoir at Tufts was part of the system.

LAWRENCE ROAD.

THIS very recent roadway runs in its western course over land once belonging to the Lawrence estate, and in past years some of the loveliest acres of Medford.

The land was largely glacial, with many kames or little hills. Today the road touches on the Lawrence Memorial Hospital, an exceptionally fine modern hospital, provided through the generosity of Daniel C. Lawrence and his son Rosewell B. Lawrence. On the north side of the road is an old yellow colonial building, once owned by John Albree, who had a milldam near by. It later became the home of Nathaniel Hall and his wife Joanna Brooks, daughter of the Revolutionary minister, Edward Brooks. Their grandson was Francis Parkman, the famous historian, who in 1831 for four years came to live on his grandfather's farm. He roamed throughout the woodland, now our Middlesex Fells, and from it doubtless gained that knowledge of wild life that forms the background of his studies of Indian and pioneer history.

From Lincoln Road a right of way leads into the Fells and along a path to the old milldam once owned by Jonathan Wade (owner and builder of the Garrison House on Bradlee Road). Meeting-house Brook still flows in a charming stream through the low valley where once was the pond, and the bank of gravel that formed the dam and the runway are still visible.

From the end of Lincoln Road, or any of the roads to the north, access may be had to the Fells and their delightful walks and drives. The Lawrence or Ramshead Observatory is about a mile from this point and commands a superb view of the surrounding country.

Lawrence Road has a special fame during the Christmas season from the lavish display of lights made by the people along its course.

RIVERSIDE AVENUE TO WELLINGTON.

Over Wellington Bridge and back by way of Mystic Avenue to Main Street.

RIERSIDE Avenue was formerly called Ship Street, and rightly so, as this road was the way to the great shipyards which gave Medford much of her

reputation. For many years the road was in two parts. One, Distill House Lane, led from the square to the four distilleries which also made the name of Medford as widely known as her ships. The other half ran originally from Salem Street across the common, somewhat near Cross Street of today, and joined Ship Street, thence running to Wellington as "the way to Blanchard's." Distill House Lane was opened as a part of Ship Street in 1746.

Conveniently enough to the four taverns in the square were the distilleries of Medford, on both sides of Ship Street. The most famous was that set in operation by Andrew Hall about 1735; the site was chosen because a copious spring gushed forth at that spot. The Riverside Theatre stands on the site, and when it was built the spring was still so powerful that the opening of the theatre had to be delayed while a new conduit was made to drain the spring into the river. The open wharf room on the south side of the river and the long stretches of piles driven into the bank, tell a story of the past when schooners from the West Indies brought in molasses to the distilleries and lighters bore barrels down the river for export of Old Medford Rum.

On the left bank of the river, by Miles' wood-working plant, was once a tide-mill. Hence loads of sawdust and wood chips were sent to Boston to be used in packing ice at the Tudor Wharf for export to southern climes. The millpond has been filled in and the picturesque occupation is gone.

The Mystic River, by reason of its curves and clear channel, made it possible to establish the largest number of shipyards in the shortest distance. There were ten shipyards in all in Medford, four below the bridge and six above. The first deep bend of the river at the right on Riverside Avenue had the picturesque name of No Man's Friend, on account of the difficulty of navigating these wide curves with a sail-boat. Here was a public landing, used in the early days by the town of Charles-

town for access to their wood lands. Medford, it must be remembered, ran as far as the "Rocks," and Charlestown owned the forests beyond, so the barges and lighters from Charlestown came down the river and were loaded here with wood brought down via the present Fulton Street to the landing. Today the Toppan boat works and the Baltzer boat works nearer the square carry on the tradition of the old Medford ship-building. The yards at No Man's Friend were established in 1804 by Calvin Turner and were later occupied by Lapham, one of Magoun's apprentices. Here were built some sixty ships.

Across the river, near the present city stables, were the yards of James Curtis, established in 1839, where were built seventy-eight ships.

At the next bend of the river, off Marine Street, was the shipyard of Thatcher Magoun where, beginning in 1803, he built one hundred and ninety-three ships. The story runs that as he stood on Winter Hill he saw a ship lying at anchor at the Medford wharves, and coming down to Medford made inquiries as to the river and the possibility of floating large ships. He was assisted in his choice of location by the accessibility of wood from the forests and by the Middlesex Canal, which, opened the next year, made it possible to bring down much lumber from the New Hampshire forests. A branch canal, in fact, led directly to the Medford shipyards. About this curve of the river were clustered in Magoun's time the various buildings of a shipyard, the counting-house—offices, perhaps we would call them today—his own residence, now gone, at the eastern corner of Park Street, and next that the homes of ship carpenters and joiners.

Riverside Avenue has many substantial dignified old houses that reflect the pride and honesty of that age of ship-building. They were the homes of owners of the business or of energetic workmen whose workmanship was famous on the seven seas in its day. The integrity of their work survives in their homes and in the names

of streets — Lapham, Thatcher, Magoun, Cudworth and Sprague — which still echo their memories. The picturesque old Cape Cod cottage once owned by Sawyer, one of the chief iron workers for the shipyards, still stands near Carolina Street.

On the right Foster's Court led to the great "oxbow" curve of the river called "Labor in Vain"—a curve so maddening to honest lightermen and captains of schooners seaward bound that in 1761 a cut was made across the neck of the curve. From that day the river has elected to flow through the cut, and the great bend has slowly filled up with sand. On the western side even a canoe can hardly pass today at low water, but the eastern side has now a bath-house, recently erected by the Metropolitan District Commission, and here, where one hundred and thirty-three ships were launched, the children of the city play in peace. This yard was opened in 1817 by Sprague and James, followed by Foster and Taylor. The last ship built on the Mystic was launched here in 1873. Ship launchings were the occasion of great celebrations throughout the town. Sometimes boats were floated on the full tide at dead of night, but more often it was a daylight fête, with all the children dismissed from school to attend.

The house of Capt. Joshua Foster, last of the ship builders, is still to be seen at the right, just beyond, but it is in sad ruin. Houses used for boarding men at work on the ships stood at the end of Maverick Street and on Foster's Court.

On the left the old **Cradock or Peter Tufts House** has been more fortunate. Believed for many years to be the house originally built for Matthew Cradock, it was advertised as the oldest house in America. Strong evidence today seems to prove that Cradock's house was probably nearer the square, where his great barn stood, near what is now the Medford Theatre, and that the present house was built by Peter Tufts in 1668.

Sceptics are not wanting today who uphold the Cradock

tradition. Matthew Cradock was the generous patron and founder of Medford, though he never came to this country, but Peter Tufts was also a man of consequence, Medford's first representative to the Great and General Court. The construction of the house is notable. The ends of the great S irons which join the massive beams on the inside may be seen on the ends of the house, and inside is an immense rounded fire-place. The interior, however, has been restored and does not present the original appearance. The building is now owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Beyond, on both sides, were the great claypits, which for two centuries were actively worked. On the right is the new engine house, and in the marshy swamp beyond may still be seen stumps of trees, which geologists tell us are proof that the land here is slowly subsiding, as trees will not grow in water.

Another old house, its age disguised by recent additions, is on the left, home of one of the fifty-nine minutemen who went to Lexington.

Across the boulevard and up the hill we come to Wellington. On Bradbury Avenue is an old house with long sloping roof once called the **Blanchard House**, later known as the Wellington Farm House, which is probably the oldest house in Medford. On April 1, 1634, the General Court granted to Rev. John Wilson of Boston two hundred acres, "being a promontory into the marshes," later called Wilson's Point. Mr. Wilson, in 1650, sold his farm to Thomas Blanchard of Braintree. He died in 1654 and his farm was divided between his sons George and Nathaniel. August 27, 1657, Nathaniel Blanchard sold to his brother Samuel ten acres known as "flax grounds, on which said Samuel is now building a house." This is the present Wellington Farm House. In 1756 the Blanchards sold all their holdings to Jabez Bradbury.

In 1819 the Bradbury heirs sold the land to the brothers James and Isaac Wellington of Lexington, who married

sisters, Susanna and Mary Jacobs, and in this old house brought up their families from a common purse—nine children in all. The house is still occupied by descendants of Isaac Wellington.

Passing down the hill to the Fellsway, we go across the bridge once greatly opposed by the people of Medford, who saw in it an obstruction to ships and diversion of traffic from Medford Square (an object devoutly desired at the present time). This was built, however, to replace Penny Ferry in 1787. Washington passed over it in 1789. This bridge has been twice rebuilt and is now being enlarged.

Turning beyond the bridge to the right we are in Somerville, not far from the site of the country house of Governor Winthrop, and near what is believed to be the site of the first boat built by him in the colonies, *The Blessing of the Bay*, July 4, 1631. It is probable, though, that earlier boats were built by Cradock's men. At the coal wharf in Somerville, where the Middlesex Canal once entered the town, ran the turnpike to Boston from Medford. This road, now called Mystic Avenue, was opened as a pike in 1803, with a toll house on the Somerville side, but the road was never very profitable and became a public highway in 1866. On the right may still be seen the salt marshes, and even now men sometimes pile up the salt hay in the fall; but the rest of this avenue is in a transition stage too often unsightly in our old communities. By one who looks with care across the river the curves of Labor in Vain may be detected, not far from the new bridge now under construction. Two brooks, almost lost in the rubbish, cross the road, Winter and Twopenny, the latter once so generous that Isaac Royall had on it a private landing for his plantation.

Along both Riverside Avenue and Mystic Avenue the splendid tradition of Medford in ship-building rises vividly before our imaginations. We see the winding river, blue amid its clean salt marshes; the ship-yards dominated by the great hulls of clipper ships; the

wharves alive with smaller coastwise boats. The din of the hammers, the ring of iron and the creaking of ox-carts hauling lumber echo in our ears. We can almost smell the tar boiling in the great kettles ready for calking seams, or the aroma of hot molasses rising from the distilleries hard by. Those days are gone, together with the long hours of the ship carpenters, who rose with the sun and ate at a communal dining table with apprentices on one side and the skilled workmen on the other.

The locks at Cradock Bridge control the tides of the upper river, and trim little motor boats have displaced the lighters, the early traffic carriers of the eighteenth century. But the seal of the city of Medford still bears a ship on the stocks, and to the eye of one who reads the past, newly launched clipper ships are still sailing down the river to the sea.

A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF MEDFORD AS A TOWN.

- 1619. Death of the Sachem Nanepashemet at the hands of the Tarrentines.
- 1621. Probable exploration of Medford by Miles Standish and Winslow.
- 1628 or 1629. Early settlement probably made by Cradock's men.
- 1630. Authoritative settlement by some of the men sent by the Massachusetts Bay Company under Governor Winthrop to found a colony.
- 1630, June 17. Winthrop's exploration of the Mystic for five miles.
- 1636. Building of Cradock Bridge.
- 1657. Building of Blanchard House in Wellington.
- 1668. Building of Peter Tufts (Cradock) House.
- 1689. First representative, Peter Tufts, sent to General Court.
- 1696. First meetinghouse built near "Oborne Rode" (27 x 24 feet).
- 1732. Purchase of estate of Lieutenant Governor Usher by Isaac Royall.
- 1734. Building of first schoolhouse, 20 x 24, near Meetinghouse Brook.
- 1754. A large grant of land ceded from Charlestown to Medford, comprising present land south of river and most of North Medford and the Fells.
- 1755. A quota sent by Medford to French and Indian war, forming part of the troops removing Acadians. Some of the latter settled in Medford.
- 1775, April 19. First stop on his ride made by Paul Revere at home of Captain Isaac Hall. Fifty-nine minutemen marched to Concord.
- 1777-8. Quartering of British troops, defeated at Saratoga, on Walnut Hill.
- 1785. Formation of Medford Amicable Fire Association.
- 1787. Construction of Wellington or Malden Bridge at Penny Ferry.

1789. Visit of President Washington to General John Brooks.
1797. Establishment of first post office.
1803-1852. Operation of Middlesex Canal through Medford.
1803. Foundation of shipyard industry by Thatcher Magoun. Last ship launched by Joshua Foster at the foot of Foster's Court in 1873. Ten shipyards in all and 567 ships built.
1825. Establishment of Medford Social Library.
1833. Building of Town Hall at the corner of Main and High Streets.
1835. Opening of first high school.
1835, June 24. First passenger train run from Lowell to Boston.
1854. Opening of Tufts College under Hosea Ballou.
1861. Marching orders issued to Company E, Lawrence Light Guard, by Daniel Lawrence for Col. Samuel C. Lawrence.
1870. Medford's first public water supply from Spot Pond.
1875. Presentation of home of Thatcher Magoun to town for a library.
1878. Introduction of telephone in Medford.
1892. Medford receives her charter as a city.
-

MRS. SARAH WHARTON HALLOWELL.

In the death of Sarah Wharton Hallowell the Medford Historical Society shares in the loss of the whole community. A life member of the Society, Mrs. Hallowell gave it her support and encouragement; but she was not merely a patroness, she was herself a maker of history. Her life has created a tradition of service—for the lame, the halt and the blind, for the oppressed and the downtrodden. No spokesman for a worthy cause went from her door empty-handed.

Above all, though the widow of a fighting colonel of the Civil War, Mrs. Hallowell always courageously stood for peace. Yet with all her unflinching courage, she had a graciousness and charm that bound her friends to her with love as well as respect.

Medford is proud of the many honors that have come to her from many sources. She was herself one of the greatest honors of Medford.

HERBERT M. MARVEL.
RUTH DAME COOLIDGE.
LUCY F. SMITH.



Vol. XXXVII.]

[No. 4.

HISTORICAL REGISTER



December, 1934

PUBLISHED BY THE

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
SCHOOLHOUSES	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE SCHOOLHOUSES OF MEDFORD. <i>Edward W. Barrett, B.Sc., M.D.</i>	53
WEST END SCHOOLHOUSE	<i>Facing</i> 69
ABOUT THE AUTHOR. <i>Editor</i>	80

Entered as second-class matter, under the act of July 16, 1894,
Medford Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER.

Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December)

BY THE

Medford Historical Society,

AT

No. 10 Governors Avenue, Medford, Mass.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year, postpaid. Single copies, 40 cents.
For sale at the Society Rooms and by the Treasurer.

Committee on Publication

Prof. Edwin B. Rollins, Chairman

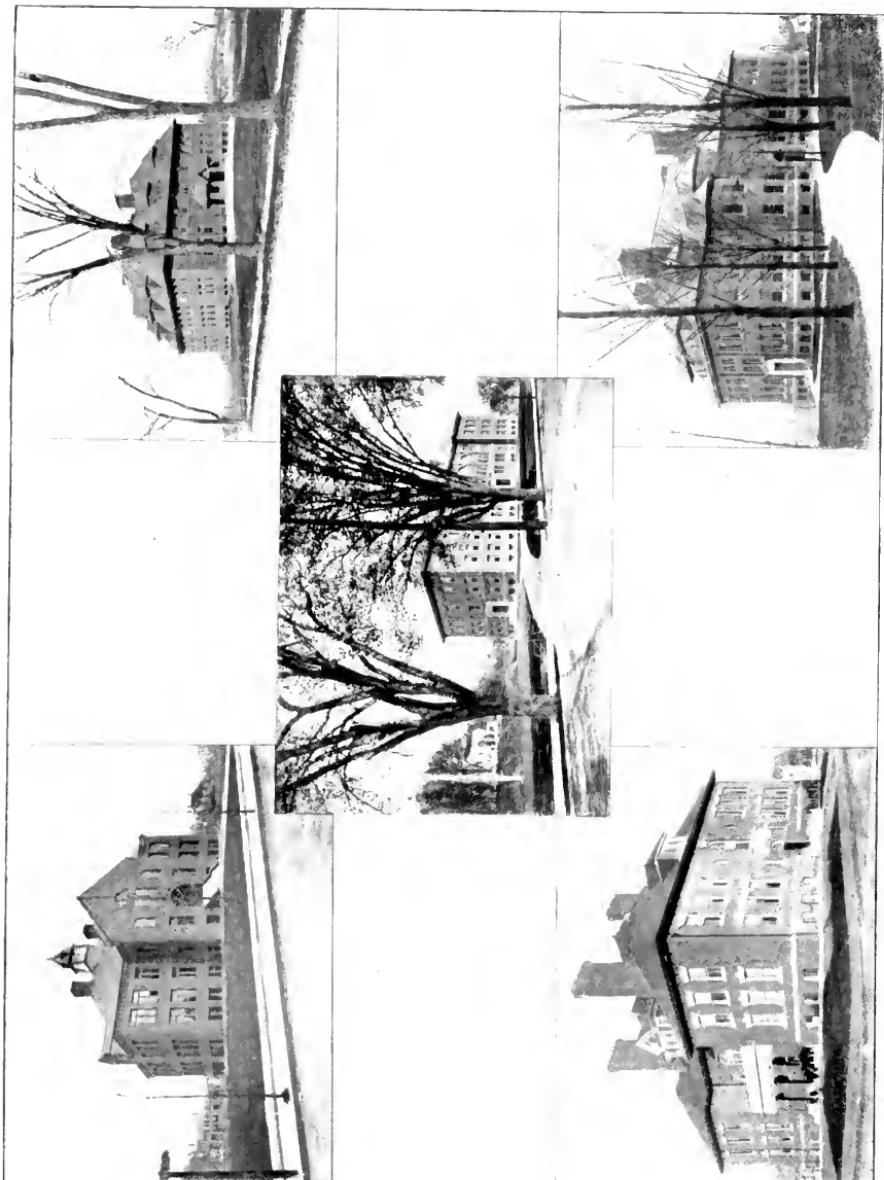
Joseph C. Smith, Editor Mrs. Ruth Dame Coolidge
Thomas M. Connell, Business Manager Mrs. Lucy F. Smith

Exchange list in charge of THOMAS M. CONNELL, 10 Tainter Street.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Medford Historical Society, in
the city of Medford, Mass., the sum of _____ Dollars for
the general use and purposes of said Society.

(Signed) _____



WASHINGTON SCHOOL
FRANKLIN SCHOOL

THIRD HIGH SCHOOL

LINCOLN SCHOOL
BROOKS SCHOOL

The Medford Historical Register.

VOL. XXXVII.

DECEMBER, 1934.

No. 4.

THE SCHOOLHOUSES OF MEDFORD.

BY EDWARD W. BARRETT, B. Sc., M. D.

The following outlines relate to the physical plant of the Medford school system. No attempt has been made to include a history of education. The aim is chiefly to give a brief description of the school buildings themselves.

Material for their compilation was obtained from the annual reports of the school committee, of the city auditor, the library of the Medford Historical Society and the files of the local newspaper publications.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE High School in the town of Medford came into being at a time when the demand for higher education was heard all over the state under the leadership of Horace Mann. The cause was taken up locally with enthusiasm by Deacon Galen James and Rev. Caleb Stetson, who at a town meeting in 1835 persuaded the voters to appropriate \$500.00 in addition to the regular amount appropriated for the support of the public schools in the town. This extra amount was to be used for the purpose of giving free instruction in the higher branches of learning to all the children. Up to that time the instruction offered girls was limited to a very few studies.

The first building in which the High School was started was located in the rear of the Unitarian Church, then called the First Parish, on land owned by the parish. The structure contained two rooms, was one story in height and was constructed of brick. The school was kept here for eight years.

The parish demanded its removal and the town was compelled to build a new schoolhouse in 1843. Its location was where the Centre School now stands on High Street.

The building committee appointed by the town consisted of O. Joyce, D. Lawrence and J. O. Curtis, who

awarded the contract to Thomas and Caldwell for \$7,568.00. The building contained two rooms and was made of wood.

In 1866 the structure was remodeled and enlarged at a cost of \$21,055.00. Additional land was bought from the Magoun estate for \$4,730.75. A cellar replaced the brick basement and a stair tower was erected. William B. Thomas was the builder. Furnaces took the place of stoves and a stone wall replaced the board fence in front.

December 6, 1866, dedicatory exercises were held. J. M. Usher and E. Boynton, Jr., delivered addresses and Mr. Hadley had charge of the musical program. Rev. George Preston offered prayer at the opening.

The school committee in their report said that the improved building was an honor to the town and a blessing to the children, and that the old structure had ceased to be an object of beauty, or of convenience or comfort. The committee included Alvah N. Cotton, chairman, A. H. Butters, J. P. Perry, H. A. Page, N. T. Merritt and Charles Cummings.

Mr. Cotton gave a report of the work from its beginning to its completion and then delivered the keys to the chairman of the school committee, who in turn gave them to the principal of the school.

No change was made in the building until 1890, when its capacity was doubled. An addition, equal in size to the original part, was erected in the rear by cutting into the projecting part of Pasture Hill. Eight class rooms were furnished and laboratories were provided for chemistry and physics.

Three years later the school became so crowded that the school committee recommended the erection of a building large enough to accommodate six hundred pupils in another locality.

An appropriation of \$150,000.00 was subsequently made. Three acres of land, costing \$5,000.00 per acre, were purchased on Forest Street, and May 21, 1896, the new building was dedicated. It contained fifteen class

rooms and an assembly hall. Its style of architecture was that of the Renaissance with Greek details. Cutting, Bardwell & Co. were the contractors, their bid being \$105,586.00.

In 1914 this building was nearly doubled in size by an extension in the rear which provided many additional class rooms, a gymnasium, and an auditorium capable of seating twelve hundred persons.

In 1929 the school was again enlarged and a vocational school was erected nearby, both buildings making accommodations for twenty-four hundred pupils.

TEACHERS.

During the first ten years of the school's existence there were as many as eight masters, among whom were Charles Mason, Luther Farrer, Daniel Forbes, Isaac Ames and Mr. Gardner.

In 1846 Charles Cummings was elected principal and remained as such until 1876. He was succeeded by Lorin L. Dame, and he in turn was followed by Leonard J. Manning, whose term of service lasted from 1903 to 1912. James D. Howlett was chosen in 1912 and remained for nine years.

J. Stevens Kadesch was head master of the school from 1921 to 1930, and on his promotion to superintendent the sub-master, Frank S. Gilkey, took his place. One year later Mr. Gilkey relinquished the position because of ill health. Ralph Kendall is the present principal, having under his supervision a corps of seventy teachers who care for over twenty-two hundred pupils.

MILITARY DRILL.

Military drill was introduced into the High School in 1890 with Col. J. H. Whitney as drill master. Lieut. Orville Whitney was appointed commander of the battalion in 1909. Leicester Hamilton succeeded him in 1918. In the following year the school committee voted to abolish the military department, much to the disap-

proval of the local G. A. R. and all others who believed in the slogan "Be prepared."

Plans are now being formulated for the observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the High School next year.

THE EDWARD EVERETT SCHOOL.

THE Everett is the oldest school building in the city, with the exception of the front section of the Centre School. It is located on Salem Street near the eastern boundary of the Medford Common and is no longer used for school purposes.

It was constructed in 1852 by James Pierce, under the direction of a building committee made up of Robert Ells, Henry Taylor and Samuel Joyce. The lot upon which it was placed cost \$1,358.62, and the contract for its erection called for \$4,121.00. It was two stories in height and had two rooms. In 1874 the building was enlarged into twice its original size at a cost of \$6,173.00.

The school committee named the school in honor of Edward Everett, who through his marriage to Charlotte Gray Brooks was connected with one of the most prominent families in the town. Mr. Everett was an ex-governor of the commonwealth and an ex-president of Harvard College.

The schools at that time were classified as primary, intermediate and grammar and the Everett School housed all three, with a principal over each.

Rufus Sawyer and Benjamin Morrison served as principals for many years. Adelaide Herriott, Annie Durgin, Ida Hartshorn and Martha Hayes, among others, also taught there.

As many as four fires occurred in this building. In January, 1856, it was badly damaged by fire. In 1897 repairs following a destructive fire cost \$1,800.00. Insurance to the amount of \$1,264.50 was collected.

For several years the school has been used as a store-

house by the school department. It has been recently turned back to the city to be renovated and furnished for the use of various city departments.

THE SWAN SCHOOL.

THE first school that stood where the Swan School is now located at the corner of Park and Washington Streets was known as the East Primary School. It was built by Joyce and Sables in 1837 on land purchased from Thatcher Magoun for \$500.00.

The cost of the building without any of its furnishings was \$1,741.00. When all the extras were added, including the land, the entire amount reached the sum of \$3,441.70. The structure contained two rooms and was made of wood. The town appointed Galen James, J. W. Brooks, J. O. Curtis and Samuel Joyce as a building committee.

Eliza Livermore was the first teacher; she was paid \$16.00 per month. In 1838 a grammar department was started with Miss E. C. Graves as its teacher. Ten years later an "alphabet" school was added, with seventy-nine children attending. The grammar school had eighty-eight and the primary section had ninety enrolled. Each grade was called a "school" and each teacher was called a "principal."

Among the teachers are found the names of Mary Keene, Mary Sprague, Mary Gleason and Mary Richardson. Stacy Baxter, P. H. Sweetser and Rufus Sawyer represented the male teachers who were connected with the school.

In 1855 the building was consumed by fire. The town collected \$1,800.00 from an insurance company. A four-room wooden building was then erected under the supervision of a committee consisting of C. S. Jacobs, Franklin Patch and Judah Loring. David Miller was the contractor, whose bid was \$7,099.00. The school committee of that year was Messrs. Harlow, Cotting, Sylvester,

Smith, Colton and Fowler. While the new building was under construction the classes were held in the vestries of the Baptist and Methodist Churches.

The committee named the school in honor of Dr. Daniel Swan, who was distinguished for his charitable deeds in the community.

At this time the committee voted to abolish the name "alphabet" from the schools, which thereafter were to be classed as grammar, intermediate and primary schools.

In 1865 Benjamin Morrison was made principal, with Ella Burbank as his assistant.

In 1896 heating and ventilating systems were installed.

Miss Archibald became principal in 1909 and remained there until the building was torn down in 1916 to make room for a large junior high school.

The name "Swan School" disappears from the school records from 1916 to 1927, to reappear when the junior high pupils were removed to another building. What was the Junior High School now became an elementary school, resuming its old name of "Swan."

The new Swan School with its sixteen class rooms was opened in 1927 with Mrs. Alice D. Bowen as principal. There were five hundred ninety-nine children enrolled and that registration has remained pretty constant ever since.

THE MATTHEW CRADOCK SCHOOL.

THE Cradock School, which is located at the corner of Summer Street and College Avenue, was erected in 1857. It was named in honor of Matthew Cradock, the founder of the town of Medford. The school committee who selected this name for the building consisted of Charles Brooks, T. Harlow, H. A. Smith, G. W. Gardner, S. N. Sylvester, T. G. Newcomb and A. M. Cotton.

The school lot, which contained about three-fifths of an acre, was bought from G. W. Porter for \$1,585.00. A portion of this land was once flooded by the waters of the old Middlesex Canal.

The contract for putting up the house was awarded to Charles S. Jacobs for \$6,434.00. The work was done under the supervision of a building committee including Peter C. Hall and Benjamin H. Samson.

The building, intended for a "union" school, was constructed of wood and contained two rooms, each of which was planned to hold sixty desks and to be furnished with "every modern convenience."

In 1863 an extension was added to provide for two more class rooms. One of these was later cut in two by a partition.

The school was dedicated January 1, 1858. Peter C. Hall, chairman of the selectmen, presided, and Rev. E. P. Marvin offered the prayer of dedication. Mr. Hall gave the history of the erection and cost of the school and then surrendered the building to the custody of the school committee. A short sketch of Governor Cradock's life was then given, and George S. Boutwell, of the State Board of Education, delivered the principal address.

The first session of the school was held on January 4, 1858. The two departments that were represented were called intermediate and primary schools. Martha Pritchard was the first principal of the intermediate grade and Jane McLane of the primary school. Their salary was fixed at \$300.00 a year. They had one hundred twenty-eight pupils to care for during their first year.

Ten years later the number of scholars rose to two hundred ninety-two. Five teachers were employed, with Jacob O. Sanborn presiding over the grammar department that had been added to the other grades.

To relieve the crowded condition in the building a branch school was started in the basement of the Episcopal Church, with Mrs. L. E. Porter in charge.

In 1878 water was introduced into the building by order of the local board of health, who condemned the well as a menace to the health of the children.

In 1890 George W. Parsons, with Mary Cotton as his assistant, was made master of the school. Mary Howard

taught the intermediate and Jennie Waterman the primary grade. All grades up and through the ninth grade were taught, including subjects now found in the Junior High Schools.

The school has always been under capable principals, two of whom, Goldie Smith and Adelaide Herriott, remained for long periods. Miss Smith resigned in 1910 and Miss Herriott retired in 1926.

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOOL.

THE Abraham Lincoln School is situated on Harvard Street, on land that was purchased from the F. L. Ames estate for \$7,567.56.

In 1893 the city council appropriated \$37,000.00 for the construction of the schoolhouse. The plans called for a brick structure to contain six class rooms and an assembly hall. George Dawson was the master builder, with Hartwell and Richardson as architects.

The school was opened for occupancy in 1894 with Henry B. Doland as principal. His salary was \$1,500.00 per year. He had four assistants, each receiving \$575.00 per year, Ellen Sampson, Laura Dunswoor, Helen Johnson and Flora Towle. The school had a membership of two hundred forty pupils, all in the higher grammar grades.

The school became overcrowded, and at the request of the school committee the city council, in 1902, appropriated \$45,000.00 for the enlargement of the building. George Dawson was awarded the contract for \$32,654.00. Hartwell, Richardson and Driver were the architects. The building's capacity was more than doubled, nine class rooms being added to the original six. At this time furnaces were replaced by a system of steam heat.

The completed building, according to the school committee's opinion, was the best in the city, handsome and well-constructed.

In 1903 George W. Parsons was put in charge of the reorganized school and remained as its principal for thirty years. Among the teachers who were connected with the school for long periods were Rhoda Slate, Annie Barbeau and Alice Payne-Sills.

When the Lincoln Junior High School was erected in 1924 this school became an elementary school, caring only for the first six grades.

The attendance increased so rapidly that three portable buildings were put into use. These were located south of the building, and as many as twenty teachers in all were employed. At the present time over five hundred pupils are enrolled, requiring the services of fifteen teachers.

In 1933 the master of the Lincoln Junior High School was made acting principal of this school, an arrangement that may be made permanent.

THE LINCOLN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

THE Lincoln Junior High School is located in the rear of the Lincoln elementary school, between Harvard and Yale Streets. It was opened for occupancy in September, 1924, at a cost of about \$375,000.00. It is three stories in height and is constructed of red brick, with limestone trimmings.

The building contains twenty class rooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of seven hundred eighty-two. The gymnasium is situated on the ground floor, as are various rooms for manual training, printing, domestic science, sewing and cooking. The cost of equipping the building amounted to \$35,000.00.

When the school was opened twenty-six teachers were engaged to care for the six hundred six pupils that were admitted. Now thirty-two teachers are needed for the nine hundred children in attendance. The school is made up of the seventh, eighth and ninth grades.

THE TUFTS SCHOOL.

THE Tufts School was built in 1868. It is situated at the junction of Main and Medford Streets. It contained two class rooms, and like all the other school-houses in the town, it was made of wood. In 1884 an addition to it changed it into a four-room building, and thirteen years later it was again enlarged into the eight-room structure as it stands today.

When the school was put up in 1868 the population of the town was about five thousand, and with the final change in the building in 1898 the population rose to about eighteen thousand. The number of school children increased during that period from eleven hundred to over three thousand.

Prior to the erection of the house the children in the Winter Hill and Willow Bridge sections of the town attended school in Somerville.

The land upon which the school was placed was presented to the town by George F. Tufts of Charlestown. Because of this gift the school was given its name.

The contract for constructing the building was awarded to J. H. Norton of West Medford, with Daniel Gleason, Daniel Lawrence and Luther Seaver serving as a committee to supervise the work. The contract price was \$5,184.00.

When the addition was built in 1898 Crockwell Brothers were given the general contract and Wales and Holt were selected as architects. The amount appropriated for the enlargement was \$12,500.00.

TEACHERS.

Abby J. Drew was the first teacher. She taught all grades. Her salary was less than \$400.00 per year. When the number of pupils reached one hundred thirteen a second teacher was employed.

In 1887 Henry B. Doland was made principal of the school. He had three assistants, Miss Sampson, Fannie

Nickerson and Flora Towle, with two hundred thirteen pupils enrolled in the school.

In 1902 Jessie Dinsmore was transferred from the Everett School to the Tufts, where she remained for twenty-seven years. In 1929 Jennie S. Archibald succeeded Miss Dinsmore and is the principal at the present time, assisted by eight teachers who have charge of about four hundred pupils, divided into six grades.

THE CURTIS SCHOOL.

THE original location of the Curtis School was on Salem Street near the Malden line. It is now on Paris Street, formerly known as Parish Street.

It was built by William B. Thomas in 1876 at a cost of \$5,389.00, with G. W. Gardner, Daniel Hill and Dr. Hedenberg acting as a building committee. It was of wood, was two stories high and had two rooms. It was named in honor of J. O. Curtis, who had been a member of a former school board.

The school was opened in February, 1877, with Annie Durgin as teacher. She had twenty-one children under her charge; these represented all grades. Her salary was \$420.00 a year.

Shortly after the erection of this school a portion of territory belonging to the town was ceded to Malden. This caused a reduction in the membership of the school and the committee decided to move the house to another locality. A lot was purchased from John Hassam on Paris Street for \$1,600.00 and A. M. Ellis moved the house to its new position.

Ida Hartshorn was made principal of the intermediate school and Carrie Cushing taught the primary department. The term "grades" was not used at that time. There were ninety-eight pupils in attendance. In 1884 Miss Hartshorn had forty-eight in her room and Amy Jones sixty-three. Miss Jones succeeded Miss Cushing.

No change was made in the building until 1912, when a two-story, four-room brick structure replaced the old wooden house. Charles Dunham drew the plans and Daniel L. Shepherd was the general contractor. The heating and ventilating systems that were selected were regarded as the best at that time. The old house was moved back and connected with the new part. Six class rooms were thus provided.

The number of grades rose from two to four, the attendance reaching about two hundred fifty. Six teachers and a principal are now employed.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON SCHOOL.

THE Washington School, which is at the corner of Cross and Washington Streets, was the first of our modern school buildings constructed of brick. It contains six class rooms and an assembly hall which is also used as a class room. The plans and drawings were made by Charles E. Hooper, who received \$1,163.00 for his services. The firm of D. Sullivan and Son was awarded the contract. The cost of the construction was about \$40,000.00. The lot upon which the school stands contains about one and one-fifth acres. The old houses that stood there were sold for \$1,534.00.

With the completion of the building in 1890 the school committee, comprising Messrs. Waite, Jones, Kidder, Dr. Clark and Miss Sawyer, went on record by saying that the town took a long step in advance by the erection of such a school, where the teachers and scholars would enjoy pure air and good light.

Benjamin F. Morrison, a graduate of Bowdoin College, became the first principal of the Washington School and he had for his assistants Annie Durgin, Martha Hayes, Miss Poland and Miss Burnham. Two hundred seventy-seven children were immediately enrolled and placed in the four upper grammar grades.

Mr. Morrison resigned in 1906 and since that date the

school has had the following five principals: Alfred R. Winter, Galen W. Flanders, Lucille M. Dunton, Alice D. Bowen and Alice C. Reed.

An oil portrait of Mr. Morrison, executed by George M. Haushalter, a graduate of the school, hangs on the wall in the principal's office.

A manual training room was fitted up with tools and benches in the basement at a cost of \$500.00 in 1893. Joseph Whitney was put in charge of this department in 1894.

After the demolition of the City Hall in Medford Square during the administration of Mayor Haines, the assembly hall in the school was used as an aldermanic chamber for several months.

THE OSGOOD SCHOOL.

THE Osgood School, originally situated on Salem near Park Street, was constructed in 1851 at a cost of \$3,375.00. Beaty and Bradlee were the builders; George T. Goodwin, M. E. Knox and Henry Taylor constituted the building committee. The following were members of the school committee at that time: Abner Warner, Alexander Gregg, Edward Fuller, Henry Taylor, Robert Ellis and Franklin Patch. It was named in honor of Rev. David Osgood.

The building, of wood, was two stories in height and contained two rooms. Miss E. L. Case was the first teacher, at a salary of \$208.00 a year. She taught a primary class of fifty-two pupils. In 1856 Miss E. James and Miss L. E. Holland were the teachers; in 1867 there were one hundred twenty-four children in the school. Ida Hartshorn taught here in 1879, with forty-nine pupils in her class. Her salary was \$525.00. Miss Carrie Cushing was associated with Miss Hartshorn.

The building was closed in 1881, the pupils being transferred to the Curtis School. The next year the house was moved to Middlesex Avenue, near Third

Street, in Wellington, where it was opened as an intermediate school in 1883, with Miss F. G. Waterman in charge; she began with thirty-four children in her class.

In 1912 a two-story, four-room brick building on Fourth Street replaced the old school on Middlesex Avenue. The land was bought during the administration of Mayor Charles S. Taylor at fourteen cents per foot. The school committee acted as a building committee, whose members included David Melville, Charles Jones, Judge Wait, Dr. E. W. Barrett, William Crosby, George Fuller, William Couch, Mrs. Plummer and Mrs. Guild. This committee selected Charles B. Dunham as the architect.

In 1917 the building was enlarged into an eight-room school, and again in 1928 plans were prepared for still further enlargement. These plans provided for eight additional class rooms on the first floor, with extra rooms and an auditorium on the basement floor.

The school at the present time has about four hundred fifty pupils. Fifteen teachers are employed. The grades end with the sixth.

Mrs. Elizabeth T. Newell has been the principal of the school since 1914. She succeeded Miss Nilla G. Clinton.

THE HERVEY SCHOOL.

THE original schoolhouse that stood on the site of the present new Hervey school was a one-story, two-room, wooden structure. It was built in 1889 by Lewis H. Lovering, with George F. Loring furnishing the plans. N. P. Hallowell sold the lot to the city for \$2,777.60.

In 1889 the building was enlarged into a four-room, two-story school at a cost of \$13,741.00.

The school committee called the school the James A. Hervey School out of respect to the man who had been connected with the public schools for fifteen years.

Among the teachers who taught in the school may be

mentioned Miss Lufkin, Ellen Lane, Mabel Packard, Dora Gay, Ella Alden, Flora Hinman, Alice Sprague, Mildred Evans, Kathleen O'Hara and Catherine Bray. Mrs. Bertha Wenzel, in 1923, conducted a special class in a portable building that was set up in the yard.

In 1931, when the house was torn down to make room for the new brick building, the pupils were transferred to the Brooks School, under the charge of Miss Winifred Crockwell.

With the completion of the new Hervey School eight teachers were required to care for two hundred forty-two children who were admitted. The total cost of the building was \$76,814.73.

THE GLEASON SCHOOL.

THE Gleason School was erected in 1886, on the corner of Warren and Madison Streets. It was abandoned when the new Gleason School was built on Playstead Road. The city ordered its demolition in 1933.

It was constructed by Ham and Hopkins on land that was bought from Francis Brooks for \$2,200.00. George F. Loring was the designer. The house was of wood, one story in height, and contained two rooms.

The school committee named the school in honor of Daniel A. Gleason, who had been a member of school boards for twenty-one years.

The first teachers in the building were Florence Parker and Bertha W. Corliss. Other teachers were Lydia Morrill and Alice F. Wilbur. Catherina Billings and Alice L. Bryan were the last to teach there.

The enlargement of the building was considered at one time, but it was decided finally to put up a larger structure to accommodate six grades instead of the two grades that then existed. A site was selected at the corner of Roberts and Playstead Roads and the present elementary Gleason School was erected at a cost of \$124,918.00.

At the present time there is an enrollment of two hundred ninety-six pupils distributed among six grades, and there are nine teachers employed there.

THE LORIN L. DAME SCHOOL.

THE Lorin Low Dame School on George Street was named after a former principal of the High School. The lot upon which it stands contained fifty thousand square feet. It was bought from the Stearns estate for \$7,000.00.

The school committee selected Charles B. Dunham as the architect. The contract for the building was awarded to McGahey and O'Connor. The entire cost amounted to about \$95,000.00.

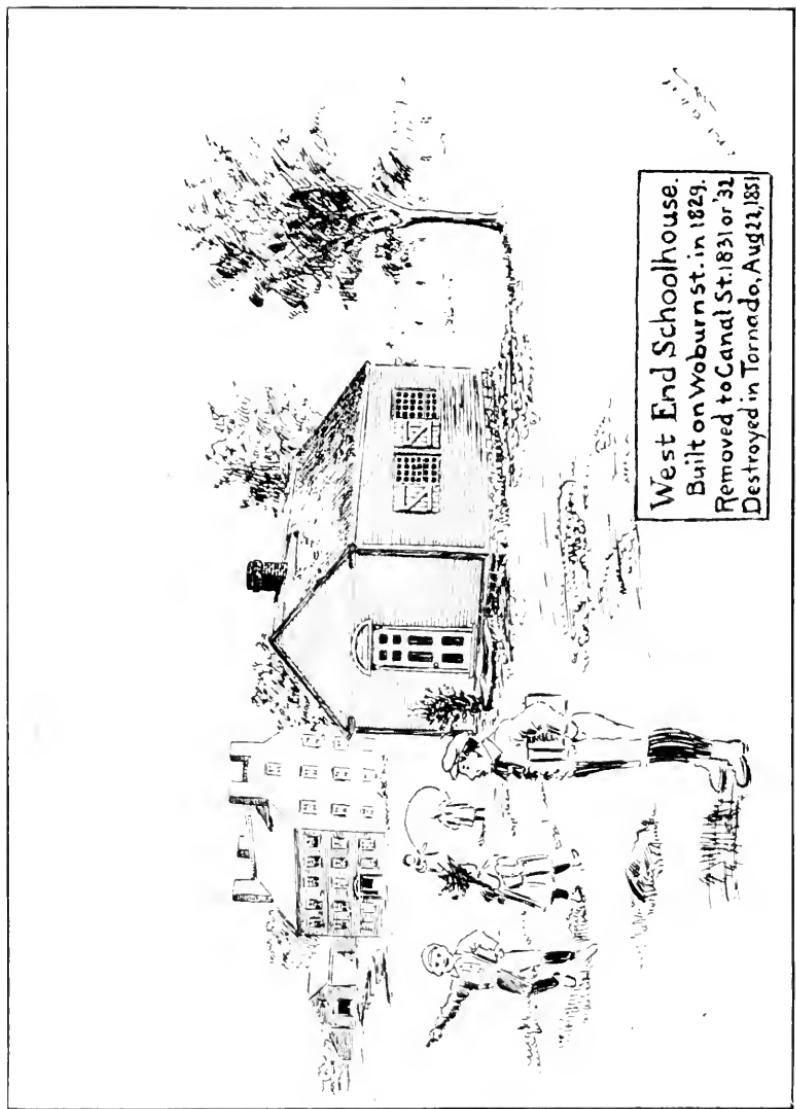
The building has twelve class rooms, each twenty-four by thirty-two feet. It is two stories high, with a high basement. Its walls are of red brick, with grey sandstone trimmings. It has an assembly hall in the center of the first floor, extending through two stories, lighted from above, with corridors and class rooms surrounding it on both floors. The basement has two class rooms and a large playroom.

The school was opened in September, 1909, with Henry P. Doland as principal. Six assistant teachers were assigned to him, and three hundred forty-three pupils entered the different grades.

Mr. Doland served for eight years. The present master presides over thirteen teachers and three hundred ninety-five children, included in grades three to six.

THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SCHOOL.

THE lot upon which the Franklin School stands was purchased in 1896 for \$5,872.97. It contains a little less than forty thousand square feet. It is bounded by Sheridan, Farragut and Central Avenues.



The sum of \$50,000.00 was appropriated for the construction of a ten-room brick schoolhouse on the land previously secured. The school committee selected the firm of McKay and Dunham to prepare plans and specifications. Their drawings represented a two-and-one-half-story building with a pitched roof. Its type of architecture was that of the Italian Renaissance, having a frontage of two hundred feet and a depth of eighty-four feet. The architects' fees amounted to \$1,070.96.

The mayor, Lewis H. Lovering, awarded the main contract to Joseph L. Gooch for \$38,600.00. The completed building was ready for occupancy in September, 1900. It has three entrances, the principal one facing Central Avenue. The outside walls are of red brick, with buff sandstone trimming. There are five class rooms and a principal's office on the ground floor. The second floor is similar to the first, with an extra room over the main entrance. On the attic floor there is an assembly hall large enough to seat three hundred fifty pupils.

Bliss P. Boultenhouse was its first principal. He was assisted by six teachers. Since his death in 1908 there have been six other masters.

THE BROOKS SCHOOL.

THE Brooks School has occupied three different houses since it was organized. The first school was located at the corner of Brooks and Irving Streets. The second building stood on the site of the present structure.

The original school was erected in 1851 and was named in honor of Edward Brooks, who had taken much interest in its construction.

At the town meeting in March, 1851, an appropriation of \$2,000.00 was made for a schoolhouse in West Medford. Soon afterwards the people there raised \$900.00 more so that they might have a building with a hall large enough to accommodate a lyceum or literary society.

George A. Caldwell was the builder. He received \$2,542.98 for his work.

The building was two stories in height and had two rooms, one to be used for a primary and the other for a grammar school. (The word "grades" was not used at that time.) When the corner-stone was laid on August 6, 1851, Edward Brooks presided at the ceremony. Rev. E. K. Fuller offered the prayer. The dedication took place on December 22, 1851. Rev. Dr. Ballou opened the exercises with prayer and Charles Brooks delivered the dedicatory address.

Sixteen years later this house was given up for school purposes. The tornado that did so much damage in Medford in 1852 destroyed a part of the schoolhouse so that it had to be refurnished. Mary Gill and Miss E. M. Lane were the last teachers who taught there. Their pay was \$30.00 per month.

The house and land were sold at public auction to Edward Kakas for \$1,400.00.

THE SECOND SCHOOLHOUSE.

In 1868 a new school was put up on High Street between Auburn and Allston Streets. The contract for its erection was awarded to J. H. Norton for \$22,311.00. The lot cost the town \$5,000.00. The building committee consisted of N. J. Merritt, N. W. Bridge, I. Farwell and A. F. Badger. The building was constructed of wood, was two stories high and contained four rooms.

P. Brooks Merritt was made principal, with Miss Gill and Miss Lane as assistants to him. H. C. Strong followed Mr. Merritt; and when he resigned Lewis F. Hobbs was elected to the position on August 1, 1876.

He was given a salary of \$1,500.00 for his first year. The other teachers received \$575.00. The school committee that selected Mr. Hobbs included Daniel Gleason, J. Gilman Waite, Dr. Hedenberg, C. Perry and Miss Sawyer.

The last teachers in this building at the time of its demolition in 1897 were Mr. Hobbs, Gertrude Light, K. Soule and Alice Wilbur.

In 1898 the present brick twelve-room school was built by Gooch and Pray; the plans were made by Wales and Holt. The city government appropriated \$65,000.00 for its construction. No changes were made in the building until 1920, when four class rooms were finished in the attic. These were afterwards condemned and are not now in use.

In 1899 Mrs. Francis Brooks presented the books of the old Brooks Library to the school. The books that belonged to the West Medford Lyceum and Literary Association were also donated. The ladies in West Medford collected the sum of \$900.00, with which pictures, casts and other decorations were obtained.

TEACHERS.

When Mr. Hobbs retired in 1912 C. W. M. Blanchard was elected to the principalship of the school. Bertrand Hooper followed him. With Mr. Hooper's promotion to another school, Miss Bertha Forster was advanced to the position he had occupied.

Gertrude Light and Alice Wilbur were connected with the school for long periods. The former taught there for thirty-six years and the latter for thirty-two years.

THE HOBBS JUNIOR HIGH.

THIS school was named in honor of Lewis French Hobbs, who had been master of the Brooks School for a great many years.

It was erected under the supervision of the Schoolhouse Building Commission. The board of aldermen appropriated \$337,000.00 in 1924 for the land and for the construction of the building.

The school was ready for occupancy early in 1926. On March 14 of that year its dedication took place. Rev. Henry F. Smith made the invocation, the keys were delivered to the school committee by the chairman of the Building Commission, Frank W. Lovering unveiled the portrait of Mr. Hobbs, and Frank W. Wright gave the principal address.

The building is three stories high and has a flat roof. It is built of red brick, with cast stone trimmings. It contains eighteen class rooms. On the ground floor there are lunch rooms and special rooms for shop work. The auditorium, with its balcony, seats six hundred eighty-four pupils. The gymnasium is located under the auditorium.

With the opening of the school five hundred eighty pupils were enrolled and twenty-four teachers were employed. At the present time thirty teachers are required for the increased attendance, there being about eight hundred fifty registered.

THE JAMES SCHOOL.

THE James School was first located on Riverside Avenue, known at that time as Ship Street. At the annual town meeting in March, 1866, the citizens voted to appropriate \$2,500.00 for a schoolhouse in the easterly part of the town. This sum proving insufficient, a similar amount was appropriated at a town meeting in November of the same year.

The school committee served as a building committee and awarded the contract to J. H. Norton of West Medford. The building was of wood and contained two class rooms.

The new school was dedicated on January 3, 1867. B. T. Perry, the chairman of the committee, presided. Rev. Mr. Hooker offered the prayer of consecration. Galen James, after whom the school was named, was the principal speaker.

Miss Hetty Wait was appointed teacher in the primary grade and Lizzie F. Dean had charge of the intermediate class. Together, they had eighty-eight pupils. Thirty dollars per month was the salary paid at that time.

In 1884 the schoolhouse was moved from Ship Street to a lot owned by the town on Spring Street, where it stands today. By the use of partitions in the two rooms, four class rooms were formed.

The school committee, in 1904, recommended the construction of a new four-room brick building, the original house to be moved back to serve as an annex. In 1905 T. C. Alexander was awarded the contract, with Wales and Holt furnishing the plans and specifications.

The building was completed in January, 1906. The two structures were connected by covered passageways. The annex accommodated two or three classes for several years, but was finally condemned and demolished in 1926.

The school now has an enrollment of one hundred twenty-five pupils belonging to the first three grades. The faculty consists of a principal and three assistants.

Hetty Wait was principal of the school from 1867 to 1892. Ella Leighton, who followed Miss Wait, remained until 1897, when Nellie Baker was returned to the principalship and continued in that position until 1927, when she resigned. Katherine M. Clark was then promoted to the head of the school.

THE SWAN JUNIOR HIGH.

THE Swan Junior High School from 1918 to 1927 occupied the building that is now used as an elementary school, at the corner of Park and Washington Streets. It was erected in place of a two-story, four-room wooden schoolhouse that stood on the lot from 1855 to 1916, when it was torn down to make room for the new school.

Its cornerstone was laid on December 2, 1916, and it was ready for occupancy in September, 1918, with George

F. Weston, Jr., as principal. He had ten assistant teachers, who had charge of three hundred twenty pupils in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades.

The structure, as designed by M. A. Dyer and constructed by the C. S. Cunningham and Sons Construction Company, is three stories in height, with a high basement, containing sixteen class rooms, five rooms for special studies, emergency rooms, a principal's office, an assembly hall and manual training and lunch rooms in the basement. The cost of the school was \$255,534.00.

THE HANCOCK SCHOOL.

THE lot occupied by the schoolhouse on Hancock Avenue was secured by the city in 1911 from Frank E. Chandler, George E. Sampson and Josiah P. Teel at a cost of \$3,051.67.

In 1914 the school committee engaged Charles B. Dunham to prepare plans and specifications for a four-room brick building to be erected on the land recently purchased. The board of aldermen refused to appropriate any money for such a structure.

In 1915 the plans were revised in favor of an eight-room brick school and the city government promptly appropriated \$48,500.00. The main contract went to M. M. Dyer, and W. W. Campbell and Son were given the heating and ventilating contract.

The city auditor's records give the total expenditures on the construction of the building during the year 1915 as \$22,770.00, and for 1916, \$32,731.25, the entire cost being \$55,501.25. Included in this amount are the architect's fees, \$2,685.62; the contractor's award, \$36,695.00; the cost of the plumbing, \$1,915.00; the heating and ventilating system, \$5,154.70; and the school furniture, \$2,677.03.

The school was opened for occupancy in 1916 with two hundred eighteen pupils enrolled in the first four

grades. Five teachers were engaged. At the present time it has an enrollment of nearly three hundred fifty, representing six grades and employing ten teachers. Two portable buildings are required to accommodate the overflow.

THE SARAH BRADLEE FULTON SCHOOL.

THE first school that was established in the Fulton Heights section of the city was a one-room portable building, located on Fulton Street, opposite Foss Street, on land loaned to the city by the owner, Mrs. Delia Dwyer. The cost of the structure, with its furnishings, was \$2,500.00.

It was intended to accommodate the children of school age in the district. Thirty-eight were eligible for admission, according to a count made by the school committee.

Mary Coffey was the first teacher. She opened the school on the first Monday of November, 1915. The school committee voted her a salary of \$400.00 a year.

The number of children increased so rapidly that in June, 1918, a two-room portable school was added to the one already there, at a cost of about \$10,000.00.

A permanent building of the bungalow type was completed in 1921, costing about \$150,000.00. It was built of tapestry brick; it has six class-rooms, a principal's office, an assembly hall and a sub-basement.

The small portable had been removed, but the double portable was retained. All the rooms were soon filled. Eight teachers were required. When the George E. Davenport School was opened in 1926, the temporary portable houses were abandoned and the number of classes was reduced to six, with about two hundred pupils in attendance.

The school did not receive a name until 1925, when the present name was selected in honor of Sarah Bradlee Fulton, a Revolutionary heroine.

THE CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS SCHOOL.

IN 1927 the school committee recommended the erection of two schoolhouses for primary and intermediate grades in South Medford, to replace the Tufts School.

The construction of one of these was favored by the city government and sufficient money was appropriated for its erection.

A lot, costing \$15,000.00, was secured at the junction of Hicks Avenue and East Albion Street. According to the city auditor's report of 1929, the entire cost of the building, including all extras and furnishings, amounted to \$149,223.74. Of this sum the general contractor received \$88,827.83; the architect, \$7,313.47; the subcontractors for heating, plumbing, and wiring, over \$26,000.00.

The school, fitted up for six grades, was opened in the fall of 1929 with four hundred nineteen children enrolled. The employment of twelve teachers, besides a principal, was required.

The committee chose the name "Mystic" for the schoolhouse, but Italian-American citizens in the district requested that the name be changed to the "Christopher Columbus School." The petition was granted. At the dedication of the building, American flags, a bust of Columbus and other gifts were presented to the school.

THE HILLSIDE SCHOOL.

IN 1895 the school committee recommended the establishment of a school in the Hillside district. Plans were prepared for a four-room wooden schoolhouse, to be erected on a lot owned by the city at the corner of Boston Avenue and Winthrop Street.

The city council appropriated \$16,000.00 for its construction. Ham and Hopkins were the builders and Wales and Holt furnished the drawings and specifications.

On September 12, 1896, the school was opened. One hundred sixteen children were enrolled, under the care of three teachers. Anna Welch taught for a short time. Among the early teachers were Ella A. Leighton, Bertha Lawrence and Elizabeth Carty.

Helen Townsend, Cora Gordon, Octavia Stewart, and Mabel T. Kallock were more recently connected with the school.

In 1929 this building was abandoned and a new brick structure was erected between Capen and Emery Streets.

Ten teachers and a principal are now required for the three hundred fifty pupils that are in attendance.

THE GEORGE E. DAVENPORT SCHOOL.

THE George E. Davenport schoolhouse on Horne Avenue was completed and occupied in 1926. The man in whose honor it was named had been a member of the school committee for several years.

The building is constructed of brick, is two and one-half stories high and contains eleven class rooms.

The total cost was nearly \$120,000.00. Land takings and land damages cost \$7,995.00. The main contract was for \$77,008.00 and the architect's fees amounted to \$6,917.33.

The school started with two hundred eighty pupils, in six grades, taught by eight teachers. At the present time eleven teachers are employed, caring for three hundred fifty pupils.

THE MILTON F. ROBERTS JUNIOR HIGH.

IN March, 1926, the school committee requested the schoolhouse building commission to erect a thirty-room building on land between Court and Park Streets.

During the following month the board of aldermen made an appropriation of \$565,000.00. Of this amount

\$500,000.00 was to be raised by bond issue and the remainder, \$65,000.00, by taxes.

The schoolhouse building commission in June awarded the contract to the Duncan Construction Company at \$416,300.00. The sub-contracts awarded to different persons amounted to \$100,975.00.

The work of construction was begun in July, 1926, and the building was opened for occupancy on September 19, 1927.

With the cost of the land, the architect's fees and extras, the total cost amounted to \$610,000.00.

The structure, in the form of a "T", is four stories high and has a flat roof. It is two hundred eighty feet long and one hundred sixty feet wide. Its main entrance is on Court Street. The auditorium, which seats twelve hundred, and the gymnasium, with six hundred seats for spectators, form the projecting part toward Park Street.

The lunchroom on the ground floor provides seats for six hundred. On this floor there are also rooms for wood and sheet metal work, for printing and machine shop work. The upper three stories contain thirty class rooms, four recitation rooms, three study halls, a library and emergency rooms.

The school was named in honor of Milton Fuller Roberts, who had seen service in the Civil, the Spanish-American and the World wars.

THE FOREST PARK SCHOOL.

THE Forest Park School, situated between Governors Avenue and Ashcroft Road, is built on the land that was occupied by two double portable schoolhouses, the first of which was erected in 1926 and the second in 1930.

The new building, which is constructed of brick, was commenced in 1931 and completed in the following year. Its approximate cost was \$90,000.00. The contractor

received \$80,652.46 and the architect's fees amounted to \$4,596.81.

The school has six grades, with an enrollment of one hundred fifty pupils.

THE CUMMINGS SCHOOL.

THE Cummings schoolhouse was located at the corner of Cotting Street and Lyman Avenue. It was named in honor of Charles Cummings, who had been the principal of the local High School for thirty years.

It was a two-story, two-room wooden building, planned for primary and intermediate grades. The land cost \$826.00.

J. H. Archibald was the builder. He was given the contract by the town's building committee, Messrs. Hervey, Hooper and Leonard.

The amount appropriated by the town for the school was \$6,000.00.

It was opened for use on December 1, 1878, with Stella George and Adelaide Hollis in charge. Seventy-eight pupils were at once enrolled. Each teacher received a salary of \$475.00.

When the Dame School on George Street was erected in 1909, the Cummings School was closed. It remained unused for about ten years, when it was torn down. The lot upon which it stood is still owned by the city.

THE HALL SCHOOL.

THE Hall School was situated on the northwest corner of Harvard Avenue and Sharon Street. It was built in 1879 by John Pierce, to whom the building committee, J. A. Hervey, J. H. Hooper and B. C. Leonard, awarded the contract for \$4,700.00.

It was constructed of wood, was two stories in height and contained two rooms. The lot upon which it stood was purchased from William W. Burrage for \$1,100.00.

Miss L. E. Bloom was the first and Ella L. Alden and Ellen M. Lane were the last teachers connected with the school.

The building was abandoned in 1909. Six years later it was turned back to the city by the school committee. Soon afterwards it was demolished.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR.

DR. EDWARD W. BARRETT served as a member of the Medford school board from 1911 to 1925, when he resigned. He was city physician from 1915 to 1932, when he refused reappointment. He also was appointed school physician in 1918 and is at present supervisor of school physicians and nurses.

Dr. Barrett is a graduate of the Massachusetts Agricultural College (now the State College) with the degree of Bachelor of Science and of the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, class of 1902. After two years as resident physician at St. Agnes' Hospital in Philadelphia he opened an office in Medford, where he has continued to practice. He is a member of the Medford, the Massachusetts and the American Medical Societies.

He is on the staff of the Lawrence Memorial Hospital. In addition, he is an active member of several fraternal and civic groups, including the Medford Historical Society.

— EDITOR.

EDWARD J. GAFFEY AND SONS
Funeral Service

Medford - - Mass.

TELEPHONE, MYSTIC 0031

West Medford

TELEPHONE, ARLINGTON 3917-W

**Medford
Savings
Bank**

Interest begins first day of each month

Main Office, 29 High Street

Branch Office, 442 Salem Street

MEDFORD, MASS.

"The Place that is Making History in Medford Square"



MYSTIC 6010

THOMAS O'BRIEN and SONS
(Incorporated)

Tailors and Outfitters
For Men and Boys

Medford Square, Opp. Medford Theatre

DEPENDABLE VALET SERVICE

Telephone, Mystic 5060

P. VOLPE & SONS



**Choice Fruits
and
Fresh Vegetables**

MEDFORD SQUARE

Tel. 2188 or 0132

Two Phones

OXNARD

Quality
Appreciation
Courtesy

151 Mystic St., West Medford

Mystic 6165

MILK

A name associated with the Milk Business
in Medford for Forty-five Years

When in Medford

DINE

at

The Splendid
Cafeteria

ALL THAT the NAME IMPLIES

NINE MAIN STREET

AT

MEDFORD SQUARE

Bank in Medford

Start Now to Bank in your
Home City

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK
IN MEDFORD**

ONE SALEM STREET

Cemetery Memorials

IN

Granite and Marble

TUTTEN BROTHERS

21-27 CANAL STREET

WEST MEDFORD, MASS.

FREDERICK N. BEALS' SON

Undertaker

Phone, Mystic 0128-R
" " Mystic 0128-W

30 HIGH STREET
MEDFORD SQUARE

MEDFORD THEATRE

Matinees 2.00 P.M.

Evenings 7 P.M.

TALKING PICTURES

SUNDAY

Continuous Performance 3 to 11

When Ordering Coal Insist On

Cross Creek Coal "Our Leader"

It is an "All-American" Product

Look for the Stamp
It is your Protection

There is a pleasing difference
No Slate No Stone
No Clinkers



Our "Silver Flow" Range Oil is meeting with
public approval

WALKER COAL & COKE CO.

70 Riverside Ave. Medford
Mystic 1123

Your Financial Problems

can be solved and easily handled if you avail yourself of our facilities which
are especially adapted to meet your needs.

Come in and talk them over without any obligation.

If you haven't any such problems, you still need our larger dividends to
assist you in the investment of your savings.

Medford Co-operative Bank

60 HIGH STREET

MEDFORD

THE PLACE WHERE DOLLARS GROW

J. C. MILLER, JR.

PRINTER

Printer of the
Medford Historical Register
for more than thirty years

Tel. Mystic 0780

7 Lauriat Place
(off Cross Street)

Medford, Mass.

Compliments of

ARTHUR H. BALLARD, Inc.

Oil Burners and Fuel Oils

For All Types of Residences

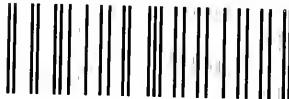
535 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

Kenmore 4670

BOSTON, MASS.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 078 814 4